













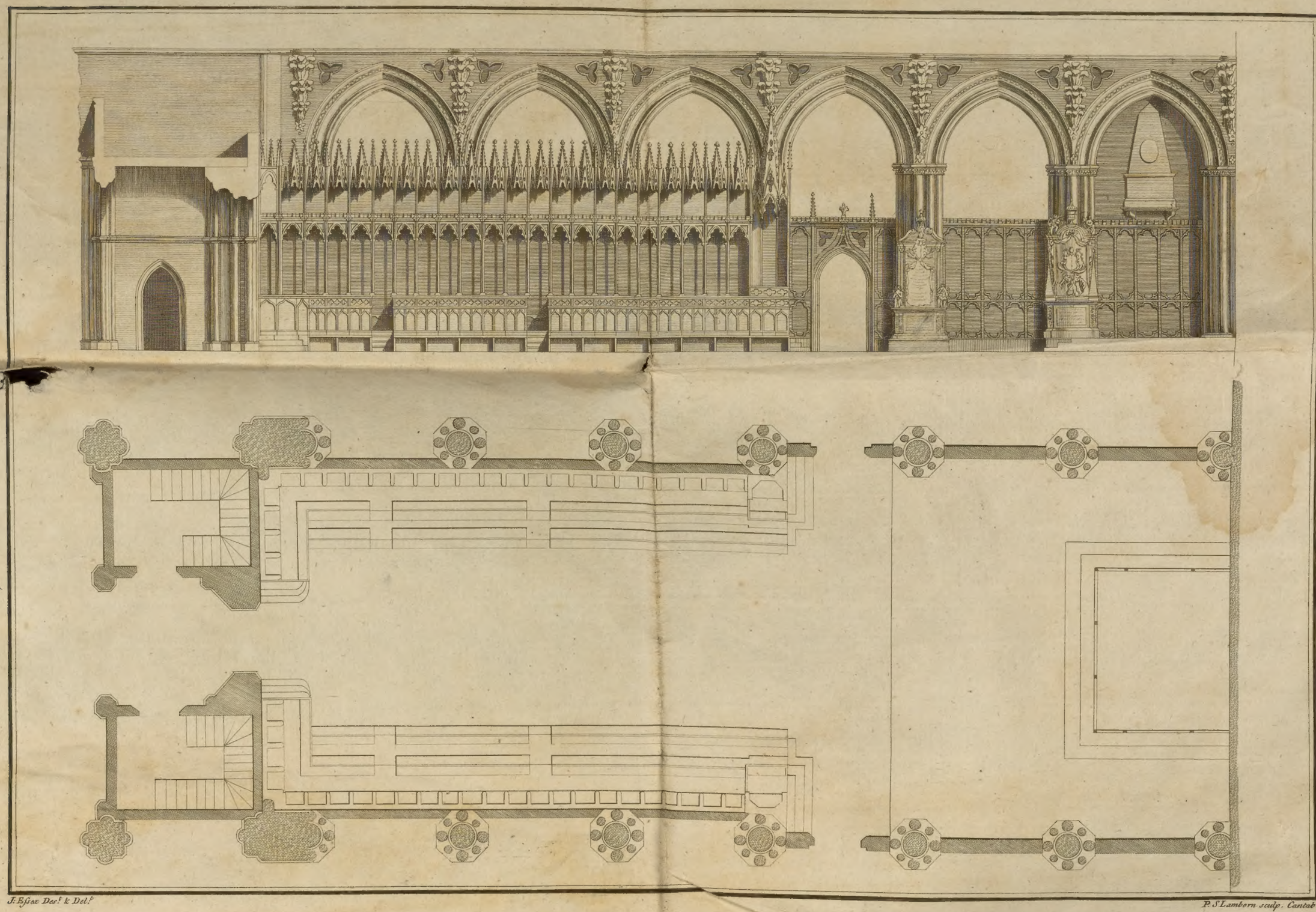




Plan and Elevation of a New Church



# *A Plan and Elevation of a New Choir for the Cathedral Church of ELY.*



## *Reasons for removing the Choir of the Cathedral Church of ELY, to the East End, or that Part of it called the Presbytery.*

THE removal of the present Choir of the Cathedral Church of ELY to the East End thereof, into that part called the Presbytery, is allowed by the best Judges to be one of the most necessary and ornamental improvements that could possibly be effected.

THE said Presbytery of itself makes full one third of the Cathedral, but of a far more labour'd and finish'd stile of building; and for its remarkable elegance, proportion, and decorations, is admired as one of the choicest and most perfect remains of Gothic Architecture. This stately and sumptuous Fabric is at present in a manner lost, or an useless incumbrance to the Church: it was first built in order to extend the Church to a proper length; but principally for the reception of the famous Shrine of Saint *Etheldreda*, and for other such-like gainful and superstitious purposes; and of course therefore fell into disuse and neglect at the time of the Reformation: But now, by the proposed introduction of the Choir into it, will become not only the most useful part of the Church, but contribute in the highest degree to the beauty and magnificence of the whole.

WITH regard to real use and importance, the said Presbytery, by the advantage it has of a most curious arched Roof of Stone, has been found on trial to be better adapted in all respects to the purposes of Reading and Hearing, as well as of the Organ and Voices, for performing the several parts of Divine Service, than the place of the present Choir.

AND with regard to beauty and ornament; — whereas by the Situation of the present Choir, the great Cross-Isle of the Church, with the spacious Octagon formed in the Centre, is broken and divided into three parts by the two blank sides of the said Choir, and thereby the Arches intersected, the Pillars in a great measure hid, the Uniformity destroyed, and the general View intercepted; and whereas the great Nave of the Church is thereby likewise contracted, reaching now only to the entrance into the present Choir, which is short of the said Cross-Isle by 26 feet; — by the proposed alteration, both the Nave and Cross-Isle will acquire their due dimensions, and the Church be cleared of those inconsistencies, by which the view of it, in its real harmony and proportion, has hitherto been obstructed.

NONE of these desirable ends could be effected without removing the present Choir into the Presbytery; — but what would crown and complete this Design is,

that the elegant Gothic Dome and Lantern erected on the spacious Octagon formed on the Transept of the Cross-Isle, and carried up to the same figure to the height of 172 Feet, (a Work as singular as it is beautiful in its kind, and not inferior to any thing in Europe for its magnificence and most admirable construction,) will be seen, as it deserves, in its proper point of view, in the same manner as the Dome of St. PAUL's Church; and the whole Fabric by these means obtaining the same form with that Church, will render this Cathedral one of the most complete in the whole Kingdom.

So many considerable improvements arising from the single alteration of removing the Choir into the Presbytery, it has long been a general wish to see it carried into execution; but the decayed condition of many essential parts of the Church, in the repair of which the Dean and Chapter have been, and still are actually engaged, (at an expense far surpassing any funds they are possessed of for that purpose,) made it impossible for them to attempt it; the charge being estimated, according to the annexed Plan and Design, at 1200 *l.* — But the Right Rev<sup>d</sup> the Lord Bishop of ELY, considering the great expediency of the work, and the inability of the Dean and Chapter, has been pleased from his own private munificence to open a Subscription by the offer of 500 *l.* towards it; and the Dean and Chapter concurring by the addition of 100 *l.* — it is humbly hoped that his Lordship's example will be followed by such persons as are able and willing to preserve and improve these ancient and venerable Structures, and that a sufficient contribution will be raised for accomplishing a Design worthy of that Taste and Spirit of improvement which so eminently distinguish this Age and Country.

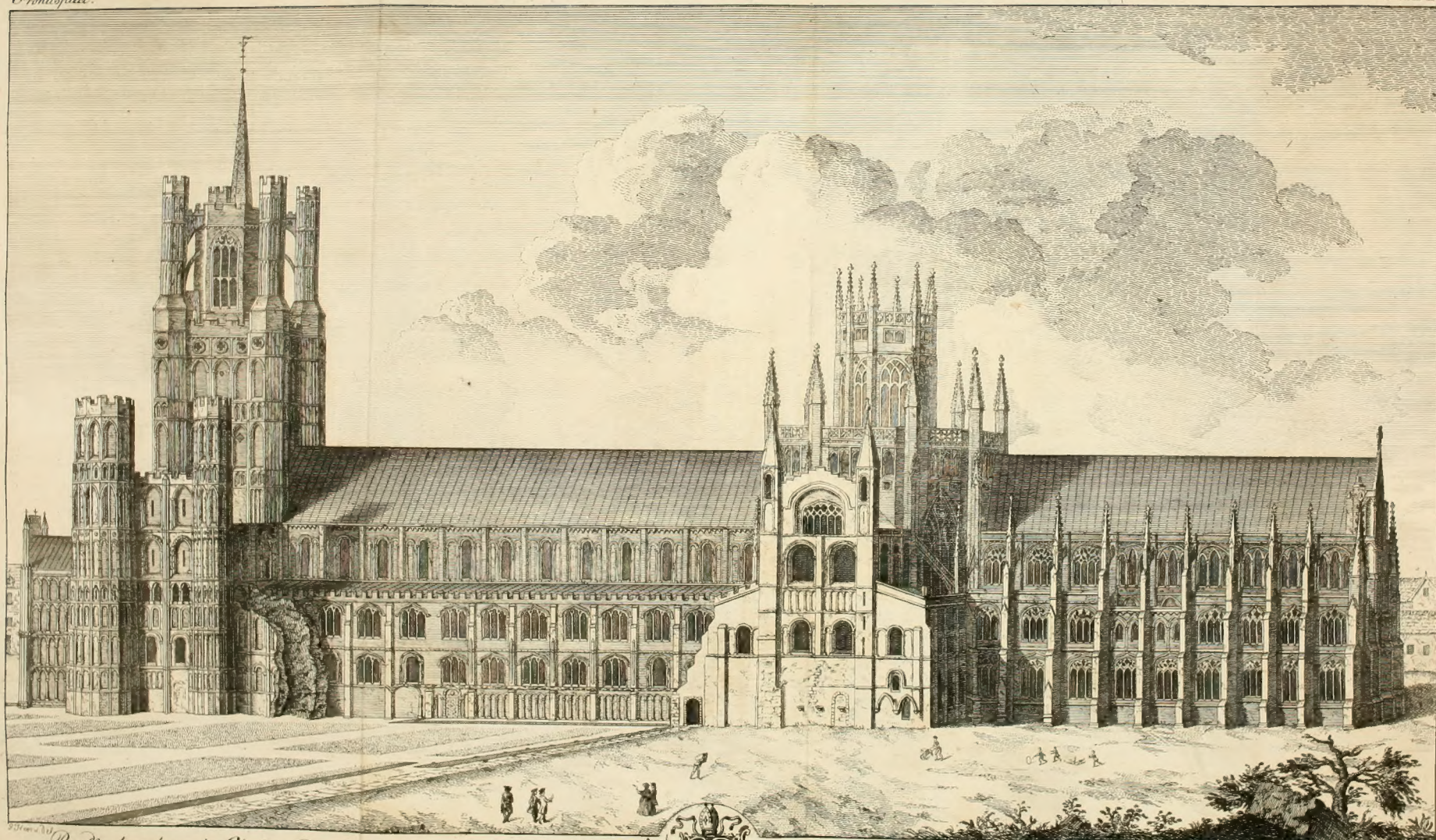
THE present occasion is thought most proper for setting about the proposed Alteration, as it may be carried on at the same time with the other Repairs which are now making at the particular charge of the Dean and Chapter, and thereby Divine Service receive no additional interruption.

*Ely, Nov. 24. 1759.*

*The Dean and Chapter.*

THOSE Persons who are inclined to favour the above Subscription, are desired to give in their Names, and the Sum they intend to contribute, to the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. *James Bentham* at *Ely*, before the 14th of June, 1760.



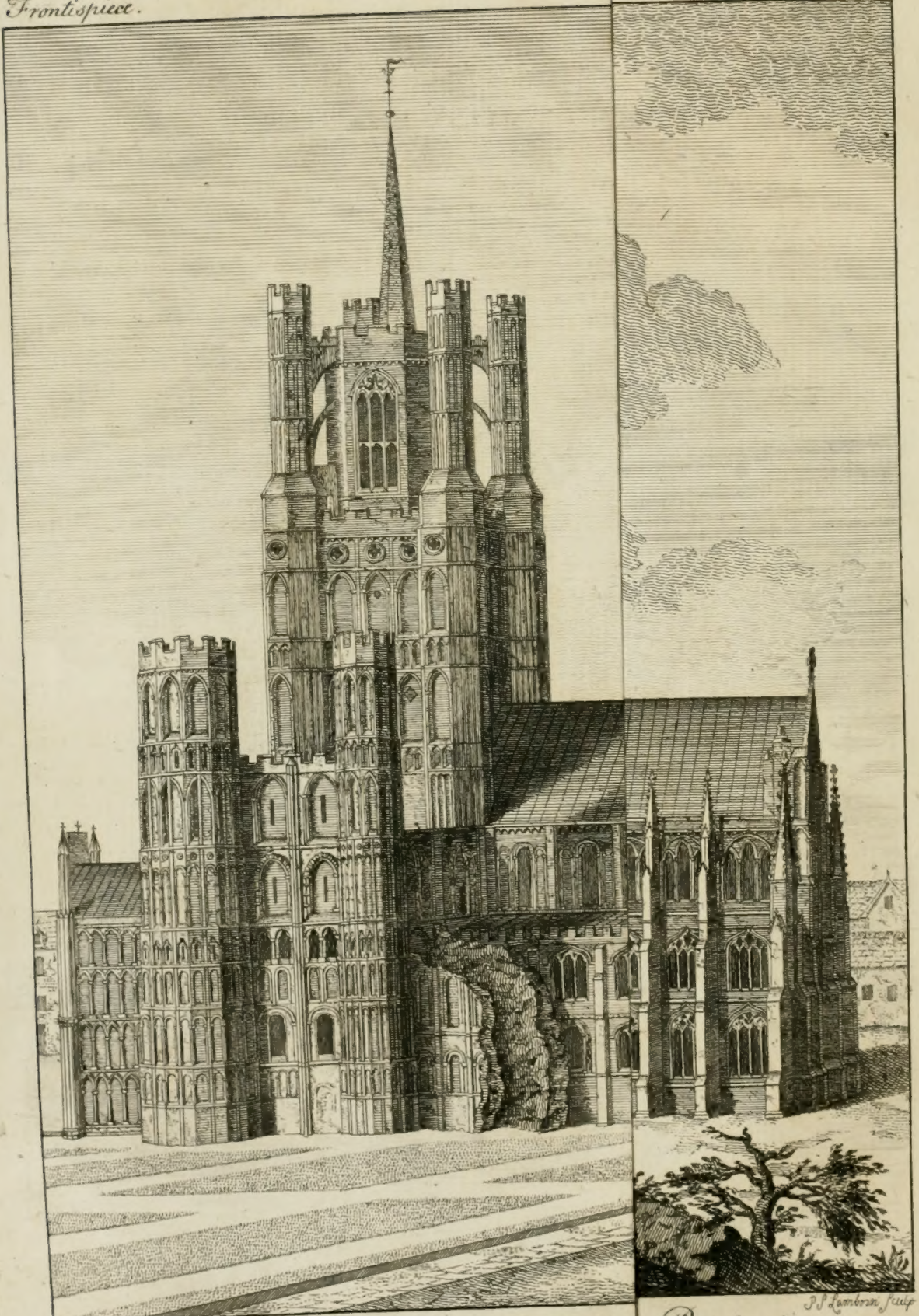


Rev.<sup>do</sup> admodum in Christo Patri ac D<sup>no</sup> D<sup>no</sup> Matthiae Manson  
sumptibus suis aere incisum, humillime



Elie: Ep<sup>o</sup> hunc Ecclesia suae Cath. Elie: ab Austro Prospectum,  
D. D. D. Jacobus Bentham. 1765.





J. J. Lamborn sculp

Rev.<sup>do</sup> admodum in Christo Patri ac Prospectum,  
sumptibus



THE  
HISTORY  
AND  
ANTIQUITIES  
OF THE  
CONVENTUAL and CATHEDRAL  
CHURCH of *ELY*:

From the Foundation of the MONASTERY, A.D. 673.  
To the Year 1771.

ILLUSTRATED WITH COPPER-PLATES.

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By JAMES BENTHAM, M.A.  
FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES, LONDON,  
RECTOR OF FELTWELL ST. NICHOLAS, NORFOLK,  
AND LATE MINOR CANON OF ELY.

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*Res ardua, vetustis novitatem dare, novis auctoritatem, obsoletis nitorem, obscuris lucem, fastiditis gratiam, dubiis fidem, omnibus vero naturam, et naturæ suæ Omnia.*

Plin. Nat. Hist. Lib. I.

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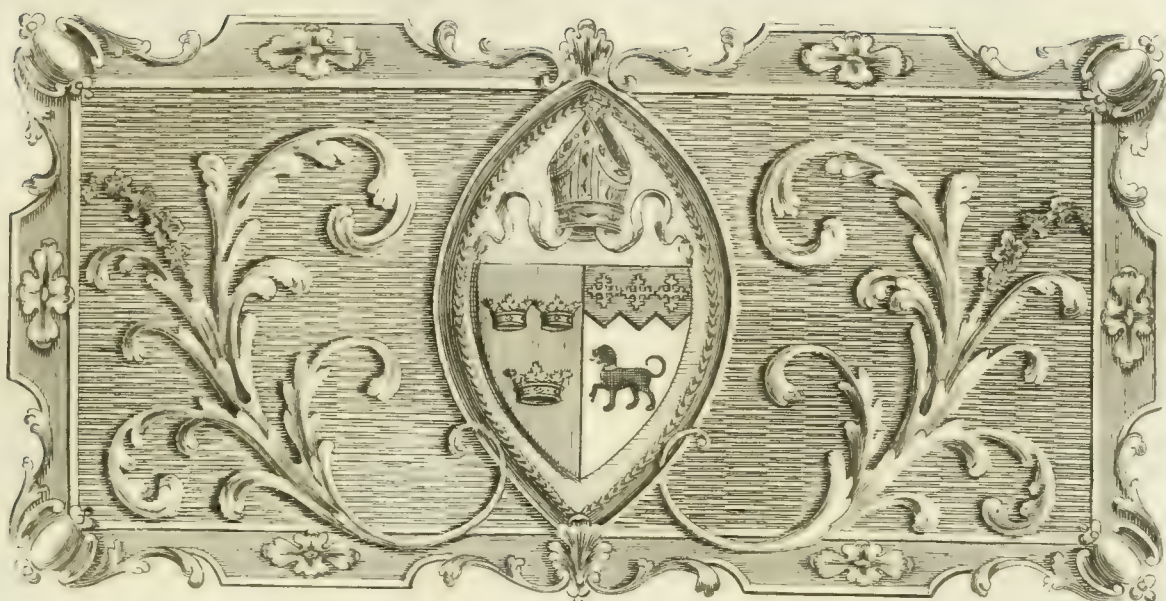
M.DCC.LXXI.

*Plat.*  
*2nd ed. 1812*  
*Suppl. 1817*



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TO  
THE RIGHT REVEREND  
EDMUND KEENE, D.D.  
LORD BISHOP of *ELY*.

MY LORD,

**H**AVING been placed by Bishop MAWSON under the immediate Patronage of the See of ELY, I naturally apply myself to your LORDSHIP, for Protection to the following History; in which I have traced out and represented many Antiquities respecting your Cathedral: Many more, I am sensible, still remain well deserving a distinct



## DEDICATION.

Illustration: And I readily profess myself to bear such a Partiality to this Subject, as will tempt me to make it the future object of my Literary Amusement.

In the mean time, as by general Character for Candor and Publick-spirit, I cannot help carrying your LORDSHIP into a resemblance of my former Patron, be pleased to accept my good Wishes, that You may attain the same length of Days, with equal Honour.

I beg leave to subscribe myself,

Your LORDSHIP'S

dutiful and obedient

humble Servant,

*Ely*, Jan. 25, 1771.

JAMES BENTHAM.



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 Rev. Mr. Willins of Norwich.  
 The late Tho. Willis, Esq; of Blecheley, Bucks.  
 Windfor College Library.  
 John Woven, Esq; of Hackney.  
 Daniel Wray, Esq;  
 Rev. Mr. Wright, Vicar of Oakly, Effex.  
 \* Francis Wyatt, Esq; late High Bailiff of the  
 Isle of Ely.

William Wynne, Esq; Serjeant at Law.

Y.

Rev. Dr. Young, Prebendary of Canterbury.



## P R E F A C E.

*THOUGH* the History of any particular Church may, at first view, be deemed a subject too confined to be the object of publick attention; yet I should willingly hope, that the Church of ELY will be allowed to be one of the most curious Monuments of Ecclesiastical Antiquities in this Kingdom; and therefore meriting some kind of distinction. The History of it, I have divided into Five periods: the First begins with the foundation of a Church and Monastery at Ely by Etheldreda Queen of the Northumbrians, A.D. 673, and shews the state of it under several Abbesses, 'till the destruction thereof by the Danes in 870: — the Second contains the state of this Church, whilst in possession of the Secular Clergy, to 970: — the Third takes in the refounding of the Monastery for Monks, by King Edgar in 970, with the government of it under Ten succeeding Abbots: — the Fourth begins with the conversion of the Abby into a Bishoprick, by King Henry I, in 1109, and includes the succession of Bishops, to the dissolution of the Monastery under King Henry VIII. — and the Fifth commences at the establishment of a Dean and Prebendaries by that King, in 1541, extending to the present year 1771.

To the Publick I think it not improper to apologize, for letting some parts of my Historical Account of the Monastery appear with a Legendary cast. This may seem strange and liable to censure in any Age of improved Knowledge: But having resolved to draw my Materials from Original Writers, I could not well avoid that inconvenience without a reprehensible affectation. Indeed the strain of Writing, and turn of Sentiment prevailing in different Ages, carry with them no inconsiderable (perhaps it is one of the surest) tokens of their different tempers and true characters. — In this view therefore I hope to stand clear of all reasonable censure: for with equal propriety it might be expected of me to criticize upon their style of writing, and shew how inferior that of Beda, Thomas Eliensis, &c. is to Livy, &c; as that I should all along have broken the thread of History, (Monkish as it sometimes is,) in order to refute those erroneous principles in which some of the Reflections are founded.

To obviate in some measure any objections that might be made to a mere local History; I have endeavoured to enlarge and diversify the prospect;  
c
I hope,



*I hope, without being thought to deviate too much from the main object: and by way of Introduction, have prefixed a general and very succinct account of the Advancement and Progress of Christianity in this Kingdom, previous to its settlement among our Saxon Ancestors; at which Æra our History properly begins.*

*The Temporal Jurisdiction, which the Bishops of ELY have always enjoyed, is such a striking circumstance in our History, as could not well be passed over without some particular notice: I have therefore extended my inquiries on that head, and endeavoured to trace its origin; and doubt not but I have sufficiently proved it to have been coeval with the Church, and at first settled on her Monastery by the Royal Foundress herself; and there to have continued, only with some small interruption, 'till it became at length vested in the Bishop, where it now resides. Some further account of this matter, and the exercise of that Jurisdiction, having been drawn up, at my request, by a worthy Friend, the Reverend Mr. Warren, Prebendary of this Church, in a learned and judicious Historical Account of the Royal Franchise of Ely, the reader will find printed in the Appendix.*

*As my subject naturally led me to consider the particular modes of Building used in this Church and Monastery, I have ventured to enlarge my reflections on that head, by some general observations and inquiries into the state of Architecture at different periods. To some persons perhaps, these reflections may appear of no great importance, or rather foreign to the main purpose; whilst others may view them in a very different light.— I cannot help thinking, that the History of what is called Gothic Architecture in this Kingdom; its origin, progress, and state in different periods and ages, must afford an agreeable and useful entertainment to every curious and inquisitive mind: and I am apt to flatter myself, That the Notices I have given, and the Quotations I have made from our best and most ancient Historians, and other occasional Writers, relative to it, may be of use to such as may hereafter have occasion to make further inquiries into a Subject, that is at present somewhat obscure, as having never yet been professedly treated of.*

*In the prosecution of this Work, I have sometimes been led into critical Disquisitions: they are but few; and when they happened to be over-long, rather than embarrass the narrative, I have thought proper to assign them a place in the Appendix, with one or two others, of the same kind, communicated to me by my Friends, whose Names are prefixed; together with a variety of ancient Charters, and other authentick Writings, which may serve to illustrate, confirm, or explain the subject matter treated of in the course of the History.*



*It would be needless here to recount the various sources, whence I have drawn my Materials, as I have generally cited my authorities; only in respect to such MSS as are not generally known, it may not be improper to observe, that by Vet. Lib. Elien. MS, which I had frequent occasion to cite, is meant, the Old History of Ely written by Thomas a Monk of this Church; a very ancient Copy of which is preserved in the Church Library at Ely: It consists of three parts; the First, concerning the Site of the Isle of Ely, with some account of S. Etheldreda and three succeeding Abbesses; the Second, of the times of the Abbots; and the Third, of the times of the two first Bishops, ending with the death of Nigellus, who died in 1169. MSS Epi Elien. A, B, M, P, R, are ancient MS Volumes in Folio belonging to the Bishop, marked severally with those Letters, and kept at Ely-House Holbourn; consisting of ancient Records and Evidences of various kinds, relating to the Church of Ely; as Registers of Papal Bulls, Royal Grants and Confirmations of Liberties, Charters and other authentick Evidences, from the earliest times, down to the Reformation: Besides these, there are extant many Registers of particular Bishops, as Montacute, L'Isle, Arundel, Fordham, Bourgchier, Gray, Alcock, West, Goodrich, Thirlby, Cox, Heton, and most of the succeeding Bishops: the oldest of them are deposited in the Bishop's Registry at Cambridge; and the rest at Ely-House Holbourn, or the Bishop's Palace at Ely: The Institutions and other Acts relative to this See, during its long vacancy after the death of Bishop Cox, are to be found in the Registers of Archbishops Grindall and Whitgift, in Lambeth Library. To these may be added, many other Records in possession of the Dean and Chapter, and preserved in their Muniment-room; Registers of Grants and Confirmations, original Rolls, and yearly Accounts of several Officers of the Monastery, before the Dissolution thereof.—There are many other ancient, curious and valuable MSS, that I have had recourse to, and cited occasionally; but these being for the most part such as are repositied in the British Museum, the Bodleian, and other publick Libraries, are better known, and therefore need not here be particularly mentioned.*

*My grateful Acknowledgments are due to the Rev. Mr. Cole of Milton near Cambridge, to the Rev. Mr. Warren Prebendary of Ely, and to Thomas Gray, Esq; of Pembroke-Hall; for their kind assistance in several points of curious Antiquities: — to the Rev. Mr. Hughes, Vice-President of Queen's College, for his friendly attention to the Work in passing through the Press: — to Mr. Essex Architect of Cambridge, for his judicious communications in matters of Architecture: — and to my Brother Mr. Bentham of Cambridge, for his projecting and superintending this Work, (the last he concern'd himself with) in respect of Typography, upon a Plan truly adequate*



*to the dignity of the Fabrick, which it describes. — The same tribute of Thanks will, I hope, be accepted by those Noble Persons and Gentlemen, who have so generously contributed to the engraving of the Plates; without which kind assistance, the Book could not have been afforded to the Subscribers, under a very advanced price.*

*This Work, except part of the Appendix and Index, having been printed in the life time of Bishop MAWSON; I shall here add the following Inscription, &c. by way of conclusion to my account of him, p. 214.*

SACRED BE THE MEMORY OF  
 DR. MATTHIAS MAWSON,\*  
 WHO FOR SIXTEEN YEARS  
 PRESIDED IN THE EPISCOPAL SEE OF ELY,  
 WITH TRUE CHRISTIAN DIGNITY;  
 A DIGNITY RESULTING FROM  
 PIETY AND BENEFICENCE,  
 MILDNESS AND CONDESCENSION,  
 VIGILANCE AND ACTIVITY:  
 EVERY SCHEME,  
 IN WHICH THE HONOUR AND WELFARE  
 OF HIS CATHEDRAL CHURCH AND THE ADJACENT COUNTRY  
 WERE CONCERNED,  
 FOUND IN HIM AN ABLE COUNSELLOR,  
 A ZEALOUS AND MUNIFICENT PATRON.  
 BY HIS REPEATED KINDNESSES,  
 THIS WORK OF ELY-ANTIQUITIES  
 WAS ENCOURAGED:  
 AN UNDERTAKING LABORIOUS IN ITS PROGRESS,  
 BUT PLEASING TO THAT AFFECTION,  
 WITH WHICH THE AUTHOR MUST EVER REGARD  
 HIS NATIVE PLACE.

ELY, Jan. 28. 1771.

\* This venerable Prelate, having enjoyed uncommon vigour, both of Mind and Body, died at *Kensington* Nov. 23, 1770; Aged 88 years; and is interred in the North Isle of the New Choir; the Decoration of which latter had been greatly promoted by his judicious Advice and Liberality; (see p. 214, 285.)—Among his Donations by Will, he has left to *Corpus Christi College* in *Cambridge*, of which he had formerly been Master, 9000 *l.* 6000 *l.* of which, are to be applied to the purchase of Lands, for founding Scholarships; and the remaining 3000 *l.* to be laid out in rebuilding the College: The Bishop of Ely for the time being, is appointed Visitor of this Foundation; and the Money left for rebuilding the College is not to be laid out, without his Lordship's approbation.



*Bishop MAWSON, the Fiftieth Bishop of this See, was succeeded by EDMUND KEENE, D.D. Bishop of Chester, Rector of Stanhope in the Bishoprick of Durham, Son of Mr. Charles Keene Merchant, of Lynn-Regis in Norfolk, (where he was born,) and Brother of Sir Benjamin Keene, Knight of the Bath, many years Ambassador at the Court of Madrid: He was educated at the Charter-House, and thence admitted of Caius College, Cambridge, in 1730; where having taken his Degree of B.A. in 1733, and that of M.A. in 1737; he was elected Fellow of that Society: but afterwards removed to St. Peter's College, on being appointed Fellow thereof in August 1739; and was made Master of that College, Dec. 31, 1748: He proceeded to his Degree of D.D. the Commencement following; and was elected Vice-chancellor of the University two succeeding years, viz. 1749, and 1750. On the death of Dr. Peploe, in 1752, he was promoted to the See of Chester, where he rebuilt the Episcopal Palace, at a very considerable expense: having likewise before made great Improvements in the House and Gardens belonging to the Rectory of Stanhope. In the year 1754, he resigned the Mastership of St. Peter's College, in favour of Dr. Edmund Law, then Archdeacon, and now Bishop of Carlisle: And on the decease of Bishop Mawson, was translated to the See of Ely, and confirmed Bishop thereof, Jan. 22, 1771; agreeably to the united wishes of his whole Clergy and Diocese.*

*Feb. 17. 1771.*





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## E R R A T A.

- Page 105. Line 3. for *b his own* read *by his own*.  
P. 112. l. 24. for *simonical* r. *simoniacal*.  
P. 167. Note 7. after *fol. 329*, add, *see Appendix*, p. 27.  
P. 196. Notes, l. 7. for *quingentifimo* r. *quingentesimo*.  
P. 276. Notes, last Line, for *Ford m* r. *Fordham*.  
P. 283. l. 6. after *built*, add *by Bishop Ridel*.  
App. p. \*40. l. 8. from the bottom, for *Mayne* r. *Maye*.  
App. p. \*42. for NUMB. XXVIII. r. XXXV.





# INTRODUCTION.

## SECT. I.

### *Of the first Settlement of Christianity in Britain.*

**W**HEN the CHRISTIAN RELIGION was first published in the world, the inhabitants of *Britain* were Idolaters,<sup>1</sup> as were the bulk of mankind. All that we can collect with any degree of certainty concerning them is, that they had religious rites and ceremonies distinguished by some peculiarities from those of the neighbouring Nations, and that the Druids their chief guides in religious matters, were also intrusted with the direction of their civil affairs; in which there was a near conformity between them and the ancient *Gauls*: But their religious tenets being, it is said, never committed to writing; it is no wonder if at this time, our knowledge of them, and their rites and ceremonies, being derived only from obscure hints and uncertain conjectures, is dark and confused.

THE particular Time when these and other errors of Heathenism began to be extirpated by the preaching of the Gospel, has been the subject of controversy with several learned men of our own nation; among whom are Bishop *Godwin*,<sup>2</sup> Mr. *Camden*,<sup>3</sup> Archbishop *Usher*,<sup>4</sup> and Bishop *Stillingfleet*.<sup>5</sup> Most of our Church Historians, before

<sup>1</sup> Gildæ Hist. p. 12. Ed. Gale. <sup>2</sup> De Præfulibus Angliæ, p. 2. Ed. Richardson. <sup>3</sup> Britannia. <sup>4</sup> Antiq. Eccles. Brit. p. 1. <sup>5</sup> Origines Brit. cap. 1. p. 4, 5, &c.



Bishop *Stillingfleet* undertook that province of enquiry, had carried this memorable event so high as the reign of the Emperor *Tiberius*: an opinion, by no means consonant either to the circumstances of the *British* affairs at that time, or to the Scriptural account of the spreading of the Gospel: Accordingly <sup>1</sup> Bishop *Stillingfleet* resolves it into a mistake concerning the sense of a passage cited from *Gildas* the *British* Historian, whose words rightly understood, evidently place the bringing in of the Gospel at a later period, namely, after the triumph of *Claudius Cæsar* over the *Britons*, and before the middle of the Emperor *Nero's* reign, *i. e.* between A.D. 44. and 61. during which interval *Britain* was reduced to a *Roman* Province, and a communication opened between the *Roman* Empire and *Britain*: which intercourse would naturally contribute to the extension of the Gospel in these parts.

THAT *St. Peter* first preached the Gospel here, has been asserted by several Writers of the Church of *Rome*; <sup>2</sup> but the testimonies are modern and insufficient: Bishop *Stillingfleet* favours the opinion, which ascribes the first preaching of the Gospel in *Britain* to *St. Paul*; and this upon arguments by no means destitute of great probability. Thus much is certain, that the Gospel was by the Apostles themselves and their assistants published throughout most parts of the known world: And though neither the first planting of Christianity in *Britain*, nor the gradual increase and progress of it afterwards, are any where distinctly recorded in a regular series of History; yet there is sufficient evidence to be met with in the earliest Christian Writers, who have had occasion to speak of the State of Religion in their several times, that the Gospel was received in *Britain* very early, that is, in or near the times of the Apostles. *Clemens Romanus*, one of *St. Paul's* companions in the work of the Gospel, and one of the earliest Writers in the Christian Church, who flourished A.D. 65. in his account of *St. Paul's* travels, informs us, that he preached the Gospel in the utmost bounds of the West; an expression, commonly used and understood in those times for the *British* Islands: <sup>3</sup> and *Eusebius*, a learned and diligent Historian under *Constantine the Great*, and employed by that Emperor to search what publick records were remaining and had escaped in the several persecutions, on purpose to write the History of the Christian Church, expressly affirms, that some of the Apostles in their travels crossing the ocean, arrived at the *British* Isles. <sup>4</sup> *Tertullian*, who flourished about the year 200. speaks of it as a fact well known in his time, that the Christian Religion had made it's way into some parts of *Britain*, which remained unconquered by the *Romans*, and where even the *Roman* arms could not penetrate. <sup>5</sup> To the same purpose many more authorities are cited from very antient writers, by the learned Archbishop *Usher*, Bishop *Stillingfleet*, and others.

THIS however must not be so strictly understood, as if the whole country was so early converted to the Faith; but only, that Christianity was first planted here, and that many converts were made in the Apostles days: it's progress, after it was once introduced, was gradual, and the number of Christians from that period still kept in-

<sup>1</sup> Origines Brit. cap. 1. p. 4. <sup>2</sup> Baronius, A.D. 50. Cressy Ch. Hist. of Brit. book i. ch. 6. <sup>3</sup> Origines Brit. cap. 1. p. 38. <sup>4</sup> Euseb. Demonstr. Evang. lib. iii. cap. 7. <sup>5</sup> "Britannorum inaccessa Romanis loca Christo subdita." Tertullian in Lib. adversus Judæos, cap. 7.



increasing; though it seems to have received no countenance or protection from the Civil Power, till towards the end of the 2d Century; and that was on the conversion of the *British* King *Lucius*,<sup>1</sup> the first King we meet with in History that was publicly baptized and professed himself a Christian. Such an event could not fail of having considerable influence in promoting the interests of Christianity. It must however be confessed, that little is found in History concerning the state of the *British* Church in the times immediately succeeding: Possibly the records of those times might be destroyed in the *Dioclesian* persecution; for nothing material occurs concerning the Christians in *Britain* till the beginning of the 4th Century, the last year of that Emperor's reign, A.D. 303. when we find they then had their share in it.<sup>2</sup>

How violent and extensive soever the former persecutions begun and carried on by several other *Roman* Emperors against the Christians had been; that only under *Dioclesian* seems to have reached the *British* Church: the names of some few of the many Martyrs who then suffered, are recorded in History; among which are *St. Alban* a native of *Verulam*, then a *Roman* Colony, situate near where the Town of *St. Albans* now stands, reckoned the first *British* Martyr; and *Aaron* and *Julius* at *Caerleon* in *Wales*.<sup>3</sup> The year following, *Constantius* and *Galerius* were declared Emperors; and *Constantius* put an entire stop to that persecution in *Britain*, and *Gaul*, and all other Provinces under his government. He also made *Britain* the chief place of his residence, and thereby secured the Christians who lived under him in peace and tranquillity. Having reigned not quite two years he died at *York*, A.D. 306. or 307. having first appointed his Son *Constantine* to succeed him; and the Army supporting his title and claim, he was accordingly proclaimed Emperor, first in *Britain*,<sup>4</sup> and afterwards in all the other Provinces. No sooner was *Constantine* invested with the Imperial Dignity, but he openly declared himself in favour of the Christians, and gave them liberty in the profession of their Religion, encouraged them to repair their Churches, which had been destroyed in the late persecution, and to build others in all parts of his dominion.

FROM this memorable *Æra* then, are we to date the civil establishment of Christianity not only in *Britain*, but in all the other Provinces of the *Roman* Empire. For it was by this Emperor's Edicts, that the Bishops and Fathers of the Church were first called together, to attend the interests of Religion, and provide for the security, order, and tranquillity of the Christian Church; Laws were now first made for the defence, support, and maintenance of it's Ministers; and the Canons relating to it's Doctrine and Discipline were confirmed by the Imperial authority, and ordered to be observed throughout the Empire; many sumptuous Churches were erected about this time in *Jerusalem*, *Tyre*, and *Constantinople*, and other large cities of the Empire; all which he liberally endowed and adorned with the greatest splendor and magnificence.

WITH respect to *Britain*, probably his native country, and certainly the place where he was first saluted Emperor, it can hardly be doubted, but *Constantine* exerted his zeal in promoting the interest of Religion there, as well as in the other Provinces. We have indeed no account of the particular effects of it, in Churches founded and  
endowed

<sup>1</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. i. cap. 4.    <sup>2</sup> Usherii Antiq. Eccles. Brit. p. 88.    <sup>3</sup> Gildæ Hist. p. 11. Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. i. cap. 7.    <sup>4</sup> Ibid. lib. i. cap. 8.



endowed by him there; but the settled state of the Christian Religion in *Britain*, may be collected from those general accounts that are recorded by *Gildas*,<sup>1</sup> and *Bede*, and other antient Historians: and that the *British* Church was not overlooked by him, appears evident from the Subscriptions to the Council of *Arles*,<sup>2</sup> A.D. 314. summoned by the Emperor's authority; at which were present three of the *British* Bishops, *Eborius* Bishop of *York*, *Restitutus* of *London*, and *Adelphius* another *British* Bishop whose See is uncertain, but Bishop *Stillingsfleet* with great probability conjectures was *Caerleon* in *Wales*; <sup>3</sup> — one Bishop out of each of those Provinces into which *Britain* was divided at that time; agreeable to the form of a Summons to that Council, which is still extant in *Eusebius*.<sup>4</sup> And in several other Councils held in the reign of *Constantine* and his immediate Successors, the presence of the *British* Bishops is sufficiently attested by contemporary writers, as cited by most of our Church Historians; — particularly at the Council of *Nice* in *Bithynia*,<sup>5</sup> A.D. 325. at the Council of *Sardis* in *Thrace*,<sup>6</sup> A.D. 347. and at the Council of *Ariminum* in *Italy*, A.D. 359. summoned by the Emperor *Constantius*: In this last Council it is remarkable, that the expences of all the Bishops were ordered to be defrayed out of the publick treasury; but those of *Aquitain*, *France*, and *Britain* chose rather to bear their own charges, than to be a burden to the publick; except three of the *British* Bishops, who accepted the Emperor's allowance;<sup>7</sup> whence it appears that there were several other *British* Bishops present at that Council, though the names and number of them are omitted.

FROM all which it is evident, that Paganism was now generally abolished, and that the Christian Religion, from the time of it's early introduction into *Britain*, had continually gained ground, and spread itself through all that part of it now called *England*; and according to the reports of History, was during the greatest part of this Century in a flourishing condition, orthodox in it's profession of the faith, and respected by the Churches abroad for the purity of it's morals.

## S E C T. II.

### *Of the Ruin of the British Church by the Saxons.*

THE *Picts*, who were the inhabitants of the most Northern parts of *Britain*, had never been wholly subdued by the *Romans*; but, joining in confederacy with the *Scots*, who came over to them from *Ireland*, had taken all occasions of invading and harassing the Provincial *Britons*. About the beginning of the 5th Century, they began again to be more frequent in their irruptions into the Provinces: At the same time the *Roman* Empire itself, having been weakened and greatly impaired in the Western parts, by *Constantine*'s removing the imperial Seat from *Rome* to *Byzantium* or *Constantinople*, became more exposed to the *Saxons*, and *Franks*, who joining with their neighbouring States began an attack on the *Roman* Provinces in *Gaul*; the *Goths* also and *Vandals*, with other barbarous Nations, about the same time penetrating into

<sup>1</sup> *Gildæ Hist.* p. 12. *Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. i. cap. 8.* <sup>2</sup> *Cave Hist. Liter. vol. ii. p. 105.* <sup>3</sup> *Origines Brit. cap. ii. p. 75.* <sup>4</sup> *Eusebii Hist. Eccl. lib. x. cap. 7.* <sup>5</sup> *Eusebius de vita Constantini, lib. iii. c. 18.*

<sup>6</sup> *Athanasius, Apolog. 2<sup>da</sup> &c.* <sup>7</sup> *Sulpitius Severus, Hist. Sacr. lib. ii.*



into the heart of *Italy*; *Alaric* King of the *Goths* laid siege to *Rome*, and made himself master of it in the year 410.

THESE calamities in the Empire were the more sensibly felt in *Britain*,<sup>1</sup> as the *British* youth had been carried over from time to time in so great numbers to recruit the Armies in foreign parts; that it was in a manner quite exhausted of it's natural strength; the *Roman* Legions also usually stationed here, being withdrawn, the Island was left in a very defenceless state. Finding themselves thus deserted by the *Romans*, the *Britons*, as the means of their safety, resolved to set up Princes of their own: but divisions and disorders prevailing in their Councils, they who were elected and invested with the supreme authority, proved generally unsuccessful, and were soon deposed and murdered. The Empire, attacked on every side, was too much embarrassed to defend all it's distant provinces; some forces indeed had been sent to the relief of *Britain*, but were soon ordered back to the continent; the efforts therefore made to preserve it, afforded only a temporary relief, but no lasting advantage against an enemy on their borders, ever watchful, and ready to take the field again when opportunity offered.

NOT long after, a resolution was taken by the *Romans* entirely to abandon the Island:<sup>2</sup> they put it however into the best posture of defence that time and circumstances would allow; and assisted the *Britons* with all their soldiers to repair the wall, formerly made for a barrier against their enemies; exhorting them to behave like men, and bravely to defend themselves, their liberty, and their country; and then took their last farewell, and embarked their forces for the continent. This memorable event, which put an end to the *Roman* Empire in *Britain*, is placed by some Historians in the year 422. by others a few years later. No sooner were the *Picts* and *Scots* informed of the departure of the *Romans*, but they returned in greater numbers than ever from *Scotland* and *Ireland*, and attacked the *Britons* placed on the wall, which they had not courage to defend; took possession of their Cities, and extended their ravages throughout the country, without meeting with any opposition.

THUS distressed for several years by their enemies, deserted by the *Romans*, and reduced to extremity by famine; many of them submitted to slavery; others more resolute retired with their arms to mountains, caves, and woods, and became occasionally the successful avengers of their country, and restorers of it's tranquillity. But peace, and plenty, and security produced by degrees among the *Britons* the usual effects of indolence, vice, and irreligion; which soon opened the way for a more efficacious irruption of their old enemies, the *Picts* and *Scots*; and as if Providence had now quite deserted them, and given them up to destruction,<sup>3</sup> under *Vortigern* their King, they took a measure for their preservation, of all others the most infamous and pernicious; and that was inviting over the *Saxons* to their assistance. The *Saxons* were Pagans, barbarous, and uncivilized; but hardy and warlike: they were inhabitants of the Northern parts of *Germany*, whence they frequently made excursions both by sea and land, being used to piracy and plunder; and had formerly signalized their valour in several expeditions against *Britain*. Ambassadors were accordingly sent; their offer and terms readily accepted: and thus an unnatural alliance formed between the Christian *Britons* and the

<sup>1</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. i. cap. 12.    <sup>2</sup> Ibid. ut supra.    <sup>3</sup> Ibid. lib. i. cap. 14.



the Pagan *Saxons*, who doubtless were pleased with so favourable an entrance into a Country they had formerly invaded, and wherein they now probably hoped one day to establish themselves.

THE first body of *Saxons* embarked for *Britain* arrived at the *Isle of Thanet*<sup>1</sup> in the year 449. or the following year, under the conduct of *Hengist* and *Herja*, descendants of the famous *Woden*, from whom all the *Saxon* Princes claim their descent.<sup>2</sup> The number of these forces is not mentioned; but as they came over only in three ships, it could not be very considerable. However, the success they met with in their first engagement with the *Picts* and *Scots*, furnished them with plausible reasons for augmenting their forces; and with the consent of *Vortigern*, another body of *Saxons* was sent for, and arrived the next year; and two years after a much larger supply of them arrived in *Britain*;<sup>3</sup> by which means their numbers increased so as to form a very large army.

AND now the *Saxons* relying on their superiority, soon discovered their real designs; first of all, by quarrelling with the natives on account of their allowance of provisions, and demanding an increase of them; afterwards threatening to break the league, and to lay the Country waste if their demands were not complied with.<sup>4</sup> — These threats were soon followed by open acts of hostility on the part of the *Saxons*, who suddenly turning their arms against those whom they had engaged to defend, laid the foundation of a long and bloody war, which lasted more than one Century, and ended in the destruction of the country, and the utter subversion of the Church established in *Britain*.

THE horrible devastation the *Saxons* made at this time both *Gildas* and *Bede* compare to the burning of *Jerusalem* by the *Chaldeans*, and ascribe it to the just judgment of God, for the sins of the inhabitants;<sup>5</sup> and inform us, “That by the hands of these  
“Pagans a fire was kindled which executed the vengeance of God on the sins of the  
“people, and devoured from the Eastern to the Western Sea: Cities and Churches,  
“buildings publick as well as private were burnt down and destroyed; the Priests  
“and Ministers of Religion slain at their altars, and the Bishops of the Church involv-  
“ed in one common ruin with the people, and none left to bury them: some, who  
“to escape the general massacre had fled to the mountains, were there taken and  
“slaughtered; others surrendering themselves to the enemy, were glad to compound  
“for their lives, with the loss of liberty, and to avoid perishing by hunger; numbers  
“embarked and went over into foreign parts; but others, resolving not to leave  
“their native country, betook themselves to the mountains or woods or rocks, where  
“they lived in great anxiety and continual fear.”<sup>6</sup>

THE land was at this time so completely wasted and destroyed, as to render it quite uninhabitable; the *Saxons* themselves were forced to retire; “They went home,” say *Gildas* and *Bede*;<sup>7</sup> but whether they mean that they crossed the sea again, or only retired into *Kent* and *Northumberland*, which they seem to have been in possession of,

<sup>1</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. Chron. Saxon. ad annum 449. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. <sup>3</sup> Matt. Westm. ad annum. 453. <sup>4</sup> Gildæ Hist. sect. 23. Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. i. c. 15. <sup>5</sup> Gildæ Hist. sect. 24. Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. i. c. 15. <sup>6</sup> Gildæ Hist. sect. 24. Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. i. c. 15. <sup>7</sup> Gildæ Hist. sect. 25. Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. i. c. 16.



of, is not clear. During this recess of the enemy, the *Britons* began to take courage and assemble their scattered remains; and having first implored the protection of heaven, united under the conduct of *Aurelius Ambrosius*, marched to attack the enemy, probably before they had time to collect their forces, and by the blessing of God obtained a Victory.

FROM this time the war was carried on a great while with various success; sometimes the *Britons* and sometimes the *Saxons* prevailing. Nevertheless, the *Britons* reaped but little advantage from their victories; their numbers decreasing by the havock of war; and many of them continually passing over the sea to their countrymen settled in *Britany*; whilst the *Saxons* were constantly receiving fresh supplies from their own Country, and the bordering states of the *Angles* and *Jutes*, who kept flowing in, and possessed themselves of the parts relinquished by the *Britons*. Towards the latter end of the 6th Century, after numberless attempts to recover the Countries they had lost, all their efforts proving ineffectual, the *Britons* were driven into the Western parts; and being there confined within very narrow bounds, were harassed on all sides by their enemies, and forced at length to take refuge in the mountainous and rocky Countries of *Wales*, and parts of *Devon*, and *Cornwall*; leaving the *Saxons*, *Angles*, and *Jutes*, Masters of all the best of what is now called *England*; where they had by degrees erected seven separate States or Kingdoms, since known by the name of the *Heptarchy*.

As to the *British* Church; the *Saxon* Kings, being all of them Pagans, persecuted the Christians, and exercised all manner of cruelty towards them, and endeavoured the utter subversion of the Christian name and worship;<sup>1</sup> their Churches were destroyed, or converted into Pagan Temples,<sup>2</sup> and the Pagan worship set up in all places subject to the *Saxons*: Many of the *Britons* retired into those parts of the Island into which the *Saxon* arms could not penetrate; and it is particularly recorded of *Theonus* Archbishop of *London*, and *Thadlocus* Archbishop of *York*, that after they had seen all the Churches within their Provinces destroyed to the ground, they retired in the year 586. with their Clergy who had survived those publick calamities, into *Wales* and *Cornwall*.<sup>3</sup>

### S E C T. III.

#### *Of the Conversion of the Saxons.*

WHILST Christianity was thus losing ground in *Britain*, some considerable advances were made towards spreading it in *Ireland*. In the year 431. *Palladius* was Ordained Bishop by Pope *Celestine*, and sent to convert the *Scots* in *Ireland*;<sup>4</sup> but dying within a year, he was succeeded in that Office the year following by Saint *Patrick*; who is generally accounted by Historians the Apostle of that Country: his Father was of the *British* Nobility,<sup>5</sup> whose Name was *Calphurnius*, and his Mother's *Conche* or *Concessa*, Sister of St. *Martin* Bishop of *Tours*; under whom he had the first part of his education, and afterwards under St. *Germanus* Bishop of *Auxerre* in *France*;

he

<sup>1</sup> Matth. Westm. ad annum 586. <sup>2</sup> — “Siqua Ecclesia, terrâ subjugatâ, illæsa servabatur; hoc magis ad confusionem nominis Christi quam ad gloriam faciebant. Nempe ex eis Deorum suorum templâ facientes, profanis suis sacrificiis sancta Dei altaria polluerunt.” Ibid. <sup>3</sup> Matth. Westmon. ad annum. <sup>4</sup> Prosperi Chron. <sup>5</sup> Usher. Antiq. Eccles. Brit. cap. 17. Cavei Hist. Lit. vol. i. p. 331.



he travelled to *Rome*, where the fame of his learning and piety increasing, he was employed by *Celestine* to prosecute the work begun by *Palladius* of converting *Ireland* to the Christian faith;<sup>1</sup> and was to that end invested with the title of Archbishop of the *Scots*. The success of his mission was indeed very great; for by his indefatigable labours, during the whole time of his ministry, which was sixty years, and by his powerful preaching and exemplary life, he quite extirpated Idolatry, and established Christianity in it's room: He is said to have erected several Bishopricks, and to have fixed the Metropolitan See at *Armagh*;<sup>2</sup> and died in the year 493. The *South Picts* who inhabited that part of *Scotland* nearest the *Britons*, had been converted to the faith somewhat earlier by *St. Ninian* a *Briton*;<sup>3</sup> his See was fixed at *Whithorn* or *Candida Casa* in *Galloway*, which was afterwards part of the Kingdom of *Northumberland*. But the *Picts*, who inhabited the most Northern parts of the Island, continued Pagans till the year 565. when *St. Columba*, Founder of the famous Monastery of *Dearmach* in *Ireland*, brought some Monks thence; and having obtained of those people the Isle of *Hii*, founded a Monastery there, and converted *Bridius* their King and all that Nation to the faith of Christ.<sup>4</sup> *Columba* spent thirty-two years in his ministry after his arrival, and died A. D. 597. in the 77th year of his age, and was there buried.

THE *Saxons* were now in possession of the greatest part of what is at this day called *England*; the Christian Churches were all destroyed, or converted into Heathen Temples;<sup>5</sup> and Paganism seemed to be firmly established among them: when it pleased God to open a way to the re-establishment of the Gospel, by a concurrence of several favourable circumstances, all tending under the direction of Providence, to bring about that great event. The Nations about them, the *French*, the *Scots* in *Ireland*, and the *Picts* who inhabited the Northern parts of *Britain*, and had lately been converted, were ready to give their assistance in the Conversion of the *Saxons*, as soon as that work should be begun. *Ethelbert* King of *Kent*, the most powerful of the *Saxon* Kings then reigning in *Britain*, for political reasons, had married, some few years before, a Christian Princess whose name was *Bertha*, Daughter of *Charibert* King of the *Franks*, and Niece to *Clotbair* the First: The profession and practice of her Religion were secured to her by Articles of Marriage; to this end she had brought over with her a Christian Bishop, whose name was *Luidhard*, for her spiritual Guide and Director. The Queen and her family used to attend divine service in an old Church, built whilst the *Romans* were in *Britain*, on the East side of the City of *Canterbury*, dedicated to the honour of *St. Martin*:<sup>6</sup> so that the Christian Religion was now publicly professed in the Capital city of that Kingdom. At this time *Augustin*, and some other Missionaries, sent from *Rome* by Pope *Gregory* the Great, to endeavour the conversion of the *Saxons*, arrived in *Britain*. The information and knowledge that King *Ethelbert* must have acquired from the Queen and her attendants concerning the Christian Religion, doubtless, at first inspired the King her husband with favourable sentiments of it, and occasioned that kind reception these Missionaries met with at their arrival; and so opened the way for the conversion of the King and his Subjects.

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<sup>1</sup> Nennii I list. Brit. c. 55. Edit. Gale.    <sup>2</sup> Usher. Antiq. Eccles. Brit. p. 458.    <sup>3</sup> Bedæ I list. Eccl. lib. iii. c. 4.    <sup>4</sup> Ibid. lib. iii. c. 4.    <sup>5</sup> Matth. Westm. ad an. 586.    <sup>6</sup> Bedæ I list. Eccl. lib. iii. c. 26.



IT was in the year 597. that they arrived and landed in the *Isle of Thanet*; and immediately sent their interpreters which they had brought with them from *France*, to notify their arrival to the King, and to inform him “ They were come as far as from *Rome* to impart to him a message of the highest importance, and which assured to “ those who effectually attended to it, no less than everlasting happiness with the living “ and true God in Heaven.”<sup>1</sup> On receiving this information, the King ordered them to stay in the same Island, till they should hear further from him; and in the mean time, gave directions for their being provided with every thing they had occasion for.

A few days after the King came into the Island, and being seated abroad in the open air, the Missionaries were ordered to attend: — they accordingly set out in solemn procession, carrying before them a silver Cross, and the effigies of our Lord and Saviour in painting, and in this manner were introduced into his presence. There *Augustin*, by the King’s permission, first preached the Gospel to him and his attendants: and when he had ended his discourse, the King replied to this effect; “ Your words “ and promises are very fair; yet as they are new and uncertain; I cannot give my “ assent to them, and relinquish the Religion which I and the whole *English* Nation “ have so long professed. — However, since you have taken this long journey on my “ account, and are desirous to communicate to us what you think to be true, and very “ advantageous to us; we shall regard you as friends, and as such entertain you; “ neither do we forbid your preaching to our Subjects, and gaining as many as you “ can to your Religion.” After which they were dismissed. And it was not long before the King, pursuant to his promise, gave them an habitation in the City of *Canterbury*, settled their appointment of diet and all kinds of necessaries, and renewed their licence for preaching the Gospel to his people. As soon as these Missionaries were settled in their new habitation, they began to regulate their manner of living after the pattern of the Apostles and primitive Christians, in frequent prayer, watchings and fastings, and other religious exercises, and preaching the Gospel to the people as often as occasion offered. The publick offices of Religion were at first performed only in the Church of *St. Martin*; <sup>2</sup> where no small number of converts were baptized on the day of Pentecost; till the King himself being converted to the faith, gave them free liberty to preach, and build or repair Churches in all parts of his dominions.

HAVING thus far succeeded in his mission, *Augustin* according to the instructions of Pope *Gregory*, passed over into *France*, and was ordained Bishop at *Arles*; and thence returned in the year 598. with the character of Archbishop of the *English* Nation. The King received him with marks of great respect, assigned him the City of *Canterbury* for his Archiepiscopal See, and then gave him another ancient Church there, that had been built in the time of the *Romans*; this Church *Augustin* repaired and dedicated to the honour of our Saviour, appointing it the Metropolitan Church for himself and his successors.<sup>3</sup> He also founded the Monastery of *St. Peter* and *St. Paul* in the eastern part of the City; but the King built the Church belonging to it, intending it for the burial-place of the Kings of *Kent* and the Archbishops of *Canterbury*;

<sup>1</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. i. cap. 25.    <sup>2</sup> Ibid. cap. 26.    <sup>3</sup> Ibid. cap. 33.



terbury; and likewise founded and endowed the Bishopricks of *St. Paul's London*, and *St. Andrew's in Rochester*.

ABOUT the year 601.<sup>1</sup> some other Missionaries were sent over by Pope *Gregory*, at the instance of *Augustin*, who had informed him of the expediency of sending more assistants to carry on the work of the Gospel, which was already very far advanced; the chief of these were *Mellitus*, *Iustus*, *Paulinus*, and *Rufinianus*; who brought with them holy vessels, coverings and other ornaments of the Altar; also some reliques of Saints and Martyrs; books and vestments for the Priests and other Ministers of the Church to be used in their ministration; and likewise the Archiepiscopal Pall for *Augustin*; with Letters of congratulation from the Pope, to the King, the Queen, and to *Augustin*, containing many seasonable instructions on the occasion of the conversion of the *Saxons* then carrying on. This restoration of the Christian Religion was attended with the greatest success; for the whole Kingdom of *Kent* was soon after converted, and the other six Kingdoms of the Heptarchy successively followed their example.

THE *East-Saxons* first received the Gospel after the people of *Kent*, by the preaching of *Mellitus* the first Bishop of *London*,<sup>2</sup> A.D. 604. — Some progress seems to have been made towards the Conversion of the *East-Angles* about the same time; for *Redwald* King of the *East-Angles* was baptized in *Kent*,<sup>3</sup> some time during the reign of *Ethelbert*; but after his return to his Kingdom, relapsed into Idolatry, and that Kingdom was not fully converted till the reign of *Sigebert*<sup>4</sup> about A.D. 632. or possibly a year or two later. The conversion of the *Northumbrians* was effected chiefly by *Paulinus*, who baptized King *Edwin*<sup>5</sup> A.D. 627. and was made Archbishop of *York*. The Kingdom of the *West-Saxons*, by *Berinus* constituted the first Bishop of *Dorchester*<sup>6</sup>, about the year 635. — *Mercia*, the most extensive of all the *Saxon* Kingdoms, containing the Midland Counties, received the Gospel in the time of *Peada* son of *Penda*,<sup>7</sup> about the year 655. he had been baptized during the life of his Father, and without his knowledge and consent, by *Finian* Bishop of the *Northumbrians*, at the persuasion of *Oswin* King of *Northumberland*, who gave him his Daughter in marriage on condition of his embracing the Christian Faith. And about twenty years after, the *South-Saxons* were converted by *Wilfrid* Archbishop of *York*.<sup>8</sup>

#### SECTION IV.

##### *The East-Angles converted to Christianity.*

THE Kingdom of *East-Anglia* was founded by *Uffa*, the eighth in descent from *Woden*, about the year 575. It contained what are now the Counties of *Norfolk*, *Suffolk*, *Cambridgeshire* and the *Isle of Ely*. Several petty Princes had settled in those parts before that time; but *Uffa* the most powerful of them having dispossessed them, assumed the title of King of the *East-Angles*<sup>9</sup> about the year 575. and from him the succeeding Kings were for some time called *Uffingæ*.<sup>10</sup> — *Uffa* died in the year 578. and was

<sup>1</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. i. c. 29. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. lib. ii. c. 3. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. c. 15. <sup>4</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 403. note b. <sup>5</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. ii. cap. 14. <sup>6</sup> Matth. Westm. et Flor. Wigorn. ad annum. <sup>7</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. iii. cap. 21, 24. — Monast. Angl. vol. iii. p. 219. <sup>8</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. iv. cap. 13. <sup>9</sup> Matth. Westm. ad annum 571. <sup>10</sup> Malmesb. lib. i. — Huntingd. lib. ii. — Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. ii. c. 15.



was succeeded in his Kingdom by his Son *Titillus*; who reigned above twenty years, and then dying, left his Kingdom to *Redwald* his Son, in the year 599.

*Ethelbert* King of *Kent* was at that time the Chief of the *Saxon* Kings: the Christian Religion had then lately been introduced into his Kingdom, and he himself baptized, together with many of his Subjects, and the conversion of the rest was carrying on with great success; and as he was very zealous in promoting the Christian Religion among his own Subjects, so was he desirous of extending it to the other Kingdoms, where-ever he could have sufficient influence. By his means it was that *Mellitus* was ordained by *Augustin* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and sent to preach the Gospel to the *East-Saxons*, over whom *Sebert* his Nephew then reigned; who being converted, together with many of his Subjects, King *Ethelbert* for the advancement of Religion in that Province, built for them and endowed the Church of *St. Paul* in *London* as the Episcopal See, in which *Mellitus* being consecrated by *Augustin* was appointed the first Bishop in the year 604. About the same time some measures seem to have been taken for introducing the Christian Religion among the *East-Angles*; *Redwald* King of *East-Anglia* having been baptized in *Kent*, probably at King *Ethelbert*'s court, and by his means: the exact time of that event is omitted by *Bede*, who only relates the fact, and then adds, that after his return to his kingdom, he relapsed from the purity of the faith, by the persuasion of his wife.<sup>1</sup> One circumstance however would incline us to believe that it must have been near the time above-mentioned, which is this: King *Ethelbert*, at the instance of *Augustin*, is said to have founded a Church at *Ely*,<sup>2</sup> (then a part of the kingdom of the *East-Angles*) to the honour of the Virgin *Mary* in a place called *Cratendune*, about a mile distant from the present City; in which he placed Ministers to perform divine Offices; though they were afterwards driven away by the army of *Penda* King of *Mercia*, and the place reduced to a desert. — But the reality of a Church founded at *Ely* so early, has been called in question;<sup>3</sup> and two objections made to it, in respect to its seeming inconsistency in point of time both with *Augustin*'s decease, and conversion of the *East-Angles*; for the year assigned in one account,<sup>4</sup> is the 11<sup>th</sup> after *Augustin*'s arrival, i. e. A. D. 607. whereas *Augustin* had then been dead three years;<sup>5</sup> — and the *East-Angles* were not converted till near thirty years after that time, in the reign of *Sigebert*. — In answer to this, It is to be remarked, that the date above fixed for the building that Church at *Ely* or *Cratendune* is not found in the original work of *Thomas* a Monk of *Ely*; where the time is expressed in indefinite terms, thus, “In primitivâ Ecclesiâ nascentis fidei et christianitatis, &c.” “In the first dawn of Christianity among the *Saxons*, &c.” — we meet with it only in the abridgement published by Mr. *Wharton*; in which the writer, probably another Monk of *Ely*, has varied from his original, in assigning the year 607, and therefore that no great stress can be laid on that point; — the credibility of the fact must depend on the original, which fixes it in the reign of *Ethelbert*, and whilst *Augustin* was living;

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<sup>1</sup> Bedæ Hist. lib. iv. c. 13. <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. fol. 2. De situ Eliensis insulæ. — Sprotti Chron. p. 100. Edit. Hearn. — Monast. Angl. vol. i. p. 87. — Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 594. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. vol. i. p. 594. note b. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. vol. i. p. 594. <sup>5</sup> Ibid. vol. i. p. 90, 91.



according to which it could not be later than A. D. 604. in which year *Augustin* died. — As to the latter part of this objection, that is, the improbability of any Church being founded among the *East-Angles* before they were converted; — it is true, their general conversion was not effected till *Sigebert's* reign, by the preaching of *Felix* Bishop of *Dunmoe* or *Dunwich*; but it is as certain from *Bede's* account,<sup>1</sup> that some progress had been made towards their conversion about thirty years before; when King *Redwald* was baptized in *Kent*; and, no doubt, with a view of introducing the Christian Religion among his Subjects; to which end, as it was requisite that some missionaries should be sent with him, to carry on that work; so it is very probable that some Churches might then have been founded. *Redwald* himself erected a Church at *Rendlesham* in *Suffolk*, one of his Royal Seats;<sup>2</sup> and it is by no means improbable but that at *Ely* might have been built about the same time. And though afterwards, by the instigation of his wife and other perverse instructors, he relapsed into idolatry, yet we find he did not wholly reject the Christian Religion, for he was willing to retain both, and had, says *Bede*,<sup>3</sup> after the manner of the *Samaritans* of old, in the same temple an altar dedicated to Christ, and another to Idols. Whence it may rationally be inferred, that Christianity met with a toleration under him; or at least, his own example shows, he was no persecutor of it: he wanted zeal to promote it's interests, or rather seems to have been very indifferent about all religions. Under such discouraging circumstances, though it may reasonably be supposed that the Christian Religion must languish; yet it can hardly be thought to have been so quite depressed, but that some remains of it might have continued till more successful means were afterwards used for the settlement of it in that kingdom by *Sigebert*.

ON the death of *Redwald*, which happened in the year 624. *Eorpwald* his Son, who had not yet been baptized, succeeded to the Kingdom of the *East-Angles*. — *Edwin the Great* was then King of *Northumberland*, and his friend; — for having formerly been forced to abandon his Kingdom by his uncle *Ethelfrid*, he took refuge in *East-Anglia*, and was several years entertained at that Court by *Redwald*, and at length was by his assistance restored to his kingdom<sup>4</sup>. — A. D. 625. *Edwin* married *Ethelburga*, a Christian Princess, sister of *Eadbald* King of *Kent*; by articles of marriage it was agreed, that the Queen and her attendants should be allowed the free exercise of their religion; on which occasion *Paulinus* was consecrated a Bishop, and sent to attend her; and in two years the King having been instructed in the Christian Religion by *Paulinus*, was himself publicly baptized in *York*, on Easter-day A. D. 627. together with most of his Nobility, and the conversion of that Kingdom carried on with great success. *Edwin* was not only solicitous to promote the interests of religion among his own Subjects, but used his utmost endeavours to extend it to others; and persuaded *Eorpwald* and the *East-Angles* to abandon the worship of idols and receive the Gospel; *Eorpwald* was accordingly baptized, and the conversion of the *East-Angles* set on foot again, and at first seemingly with success;

<sup>1</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. ii. cap. 15. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. lib. iii. cap. 22. Camden's Britannia, pag. 373.

<sup>3</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. ii. cap. 15. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. lib. ii. cap. 12. <sup>5</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. ii. c. 15.



success; but the death of *Eorpwald*, who was unhappily slain by one *Ricbert* a Pagan, put a stop to it's further progress, and occasioned a civil war in that kingdom, which lasted three years.

*Sigebert* brother of the late King was at that time an exile in *France*, where he was so happy as to be instructed in the Christian Religion, and was there baptized; he came over in the midst of these confusions, and was at length placed on the throne. During the time of his being abroad, he had visited most of the chief seats of learning in that kingdom, and was himself a very learned and religious Prince: he brought over with him *Felix* a *Burgundian*, who was afterwards, on the King's recommendation, consecrated the first Bishop of the *East-Angles* by *Honorius* Archbishop of *Canterbury*<sup>1</sup> about the year 631. His first care after his accession to the throne, was to have his Subjects instructed in the Christian Faith; which business he committed to *Felix*, and to *Furseus* a Monk of eminent piety, who came from *Ireland* about that time to tender his assistance in preaching the Gospel; and whose offer the King readily accepted: and by the joint labour and zeal of those two was the conversion of the *East-Angles* happily effected. Nor was the King less solicitous for the advancement of Learning within his Dominions, of which he laid the foundation, by erecting a School,<sup>2</sup> or as others say<sup>3</sup>, Schools in different parts of his kingdom, for the instruction of youth and polishing his Subjects; in imitation of those he had seen in *France*, where the liberal arts and sciences then flourished, and were taught by masters and instructors in their several departments, and as was likewise the practice at *Canterbury*, at that time also a considerable seat of learning. The foundation of the University of *Cambridge* is said to have been laid in this reign, and is generally ascribed to *Sigebert*, as one of those seminaries of learning begun by him. It must however be acknowledged, that neither *Bede*, nor any other very ancient writer, who speak of that King's encouragement of learning in general, and of his founding a school or schools for that purpose, do point out to us the particular place or places where they were fixed. Besides the Episcopal See at *Dunmoe*, now called *Dunwich* in *Suffolk*, two Monasteries are reckoned of this King's foundation, one at *Cnobheresburgh*,<sup>4</sup> now *Burgh-Castle* in *Suffolk*, which he gave to *Furseus*; the other at *Bedericfworth*,<sup>5</sup> since called *Bury St. Edmund's*. And Bishop *Felix* founded a Monastery at *Seham*<sup>6</sup> a village bordering on the fens, and at the entrance into the *Isle of Ely*; which was afterwards augmented by *Lutting* a *Saxon* Nobleman, and continued in a flourishing State, till it was destroyed by the *Danes*, A. D. 870. After a short reign of between three and four years, in which he was so happy as to see the conversion of his Subjects completed, and religion and learning flourish among them, *Sigebert* thought proper to resign his Crown to *Egric* his cousin, who had been coadjutor with him in the Kingdom, and took upon him the profession and habit of religion in the Monastery of *Bedericfworth* which he had founded for himself.

ABOUT

<sup>1</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 403. note b. <sup>2</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. iii. c. 18. <sup>3</sup> Matth. West. ad annum 636. — Will. Malmesb. de Reg. Angl. pag. 34. <sup>4</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. iii. cap. 19. <sup>5</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 1. — Monast. Angl. tom. i. pag. 291. b. 19. <sup>6</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 6. now *Seham*. — Hist. Ramefienf. cap. 82. Edit. Gale.



ABOUT four years after *Sigebert's* retirement, it happened that *Penda* the pagan King of *Mercia* unexpectedly entered the Kingdom of *East-Anglia* with a powerful army; the occasion of this act of hostility is passed over in silence by Historians; but it was so sudden that the *East-Angles* being unprepared, found themselves overmatched and unable to resist the enemy. In this distress, they had recourse to *Sigebert*,<sup>1</sup> and endeavoured to persuade him to quit his solitude for a time, and take upon him the command of what forces they were able to collect; in hopes that the presence of their old King, formerly renowned for his valour and conduct, might animate the Soldiery and compensate their want of numbers. *Sigebert* refused to comply with their request; perhaps thinking it inconsistent with his present profession to bear arms;—but at length, either by entreaty, or compulsion, he was brought to the army, where he still persisted in his resolution, and would only carry in his hand a wand. The event of the engagement proved very unfortunate to the *East-Angles*, for *Sigebert* and King *Egric* were both slain, and their whole army defeated. This fatal battle was fought, according to the *Ely Historian*<sup>2</sup> in the year 637.

*Egric* was succeeded by *Anna* the Son of *Enus* 3 brother of *Redwald*, a virtuous and pious Prince, and one of the most illustrious of the Kings of *East-Anglia*. *Anna* and his family had been baptized by Bp. *Felix* 4 in the reign of *Sigebert*, and both before and after he was King greatly advanced the interests of the Christian Religion, by his zeal for the honour of God and his Worship, and by the encouragement he gave to the building and endowment of Churches. 5 To the Monastery of *Cnobbe-resburg* founded by *Sigebert*, he was a considerable Benefactor, which he augmented both in buildings and revenues; 6 and in general, Christianity was in a flourishing state during his reign. He was much beloved by his subjects, and respected for his many virtues by the other *Saxon* Kings, with whom he always lived in peace, till having undeservedly incurred the resentment of *Penda* King of *Mercia*, who was still a Pagan, it proved fatal to him. The occasion this; *Cenwalla* or *Cenowalch* King of the *West-Saxons* had married a daughter of *Penda*, and some time after divorced her; 7 on which account *Penda* attacked him, and forced him to fly his kingdom. *Cenwalla* fled for refuge to the *East-Angles*, and put himself under their protection, and continued there three years; 8 in which time being instructed in the Christian Religion, he was baptized by Bp. *Felix*, King *Anna* being his sponsor in baptism, who also assisted him afterwards in recovering his Kingdom 9; which drew on himself the resentment of the *Mercian* King; who afterwards, 10 in the year 654, again entered the Kingdom of the *East-Angles* with a powerful army; and whilst *Anna* was preparing for his defence, suddenly came upon him and put the *East-Angles* to flight, and slew both *Anna* and his Son *Jurminus* or *Ferminus*: whose bodies were afterwards conveyed to *Bliburgh* in *Suffolk*, and there interred.

THE virtues of this Prince are highly extolled by most Historians; *Bede* mentions him with great respect and encomium on his piety, and calls him ‘a Prince of ad-

<sup>1</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. iii. cap. 18.    <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 1.    <sup>3</sup> Asser. Annal. p. 146. Edit. Gale.    <sup>4</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 6.    <sup>5</sup> Ibid. cap. 7.    <sup>6</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. iii. cap. 19.    <sup>7</sup> Matth. Westm. & Flor. Wigorn. ad annum 645.    <sup>8</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 7.    <sup>9</sup> Ibid. & Floren. Wigorn. ad annum 648.    <sup>10</sup> Chron. Saxon. ad annum.



admirable virtue', adding moreover, that he was 'Father of a most glorious offspring'.<sup>1</sup> Some years before he came to the Crown, he married *Herefwitba* daughter of *Hereric*, grandson of *Edwin the Great* King of *Northumberland*, and Sister of *St. Hilda*, the famous Abbess of *Streanaeshalch* [*Whitby*]; by whom he had a numerous issue, all of them remarkable for their piety and virtue; *Jurminus* slain with his Father in battle, *Adulfus* who some years after, succeeded to the Kingdom, and *Erkenwald* promoted to the See of *London* A.D. 675. his Daughters were *Sexburga*, married to *Ercombert* King of *Kent*; *Edelburga* Abbess of *Berking* in *Essex*,<sup>2</sup> of her brother *Erkenwald's* foundation; *Etheldreda* Foundress of the Abbey in *Ely*; and *Witthburga*, who founded the Nunnery of *East-Dereham* in *Norfolk*.

## SECT. V.

### *Historical Remarks on the Saxon Churches.*

HAVING thus taken a summary view of the first Reception of the Gospel in *Britain*, it's state and decline, to the utter Subversion of it; and also the Re-establishment of Christianity in these parts by the Conversion of the *Saxons*; it may not be improper to say something of the Places made use of by the *Saxons* for their Publick Worship, and to enquire into the ground of a notion that has often prevailed, that their Churches were generally Timber Buildings, or, if of Stone, with upright walls only, without any beauty or elegance; and that as to the constructing of Arches and Vaultings of Stone, and supporting them with Columns, they understood nothing of it.

THIS mean opinion of *Saxon* Architecture, and want of elegance in their Churches, though it be countenanced by several passages in *Mr. Somner's* Book of the *Antiquities of Canterbury*;<sup>3</sup> and his authority for it is frequently cited by modern Writers on that subject;<sup>4</sup> without any marks of disapprobation or censure; yet as it appears to me to be without any manner of foundation, I shall beg leave to enquire into the truth of what *Mr. Somner* has advanced on that subject. His words are these: 'Indeed it is observed, that before the *Norman* advent, most of our Monasteries and Church-buildings were of Wood: ("All the Monasteries of my Realm," saith King *Edgar*, in his Charter to the Abby of *Malmesbury*,<sup>5</sup> dated in the year of Christ 974.' "to the fight are nothing but worm-eaten and rotten Timber and Boards;") 'And that upon the *Norman* Conquest, such Timber-fabricks grew out of use, and gave place to Stone-buildings raised upon arches; a form of structure introduced by that Nation, furnished with Stone from *Caen* in *Normandy*. "In the year 1087. (*Stow's* words of the Cathedral of *London*,<sup>6</sup>) "this Church of *St. Paul* was burnt with fire, and therewith most part of the City: *Mauricius* then Bishop began therefore the new foundation of a new Church of *St. Paul*; a work that men of that time judged "would never have been finished, it was to them so wonderful for length and breadth;

"as

<sup>1</sup> Lib. iii. cap. 7, & 18. <sup>2</sup> Tanner's Notit. Monast. p. 117. <sup>3</sup> Pag. 8. 86. 93. <sup>4</sup> Staveley on Churches, p. 103. 146. — Ornaments of Churches Considered, p. 88. — Remarks on Gothic Architecture, by Mr. Wharton, in his Observations on Spencer's Fairy Queen, vol. ii. p. 185, 186. <sup>5</sup> Wilkins Concil. vol. i. p. 260. <sup>6</sup> Stow's Survey of London, vol. i. p. 638. Edit. 1754.



“ as also the same was builded upon Arches (or Vaults) of stone, for defence of fire ;  
 “ which was a manner of work before that time unknown to the people of this  
 “ nation, and then brought from the *French*, and the stone was fetcht from *Caen* in  
 “ *Normandy*.”—*St. Mary Bow Church* in *London* being built much about the same time  
 “ and manner, that is, on Arches of stone, was therefore called (saith the same Au-  
 “ thor, <sup>1</sup>) *New Mary Church* or *St. Mary le Bow* ; as *Stratford Bridge*, being the first  
 “ builded with Arches of stone, was therefore called *Stratford le Bow*.” ‘ This doubtless  
 ‘ is that new kind of Architecture the Continuer of *Bede* (whose words *Malmesbury*  
 ‘ hath taken up,) intends, where speaking of the *Normans* income, he saith, “ You  
 “ may observe every where in Villages Churches, and in Cities and Villages, Mona-  
 “ sties erected with a new kind of Architecture.” <sup>2</sup>— And again, speaking doubtfully  
 of the age of the Eastern part of the Choir of *Canterbury*, he adds, ‘ I dare con-  
 ‘ stantly and confidently deny it to be elder than the *Norman Conquest*; because of  
 ‘ the building it upon Arches, a form of Architecture, though in use with and  
 ‘ among the *Romans* long before, yet after their departure not used here in *England*,  
 ‘ till the *Normans* brought it over with them from *France*.” <sup>3</sup>— Thus far *Mr. Somner*,  
 whose judgment in matters of Antiquity has been, and always will be regarded, and  
 is not without sufficient reason to be called in question: but his opinion concerning  
*Saxon Architecture* appears so singular, that it will require some consideration before  
 it can be admitted as true: and what that was, is evident from the several passages  
 above-cited, *viz.* That the *Saxon Churches* and *Monasteries* were usually *Timber fa-*  
*bricks*, or if there were any *Stone buildings* among them, they were with upright  
 walls only, without any *Pillars* or *Arches* to support them, and their *Roofs* not  
 arched or vaulted with *Stone*. Indeed if this be admitted as a just account, it may  
 fairly put an end to all further searches after the remains of *Saxon Architecture* in  
 this kingdom; for it’s necessary consequence will be, that whatever remains of  
 ancient buildings with *Pillars* and *Arches* of *Stone* are at this time to be met with  
 among us, must have been built, either since the *Norman Conquest*, or at least five  
 hundred years earlier, that is, in the time of the *Romans*; a position that will scarce-  
 ly be allowed by any one who is acquainted at all with our *History* in the time of  
 the *Saxons*.

WITH regard to their Churches being generally of Wood, the only authority pro-  
 duced for it, is a casual expression in one of *King Edgar’s Charters*, concerning the  
 ruinous state of the *Monasteries* in his time; <sup>4</sup>— meaning no more, as I apprehend,  
 than that the Churches and Monasteries were in general so much decayed, that the  
 roofs were uncovered, or bare to the timber, and the beams rotted by neglect, and  
 grown over with moss;— and not, that they were made wholly of Wood. It is true  
 indeed some of their *Fabricks* seem to have been totally formed of timber; *Bede* <sup>5</sup>  
 speaks of an *Oratory* or *Chapel* of that kind in the very place where *St. Peter’s Church*  
 in

<sup>1</sup> *Stow’s Survey of London*, vol. i. p. 542. Edit. 1754.    <sup>2</sup> “ Videas ubique in villis Ecclesias, in  
 “ vicis et urbibus Monasteria, novo ædificandi genere conflurgere.” *Will. Malmesb. de Regibus Angl.*  
 p. 102. Edit. Francof. 1601.    <sup>3</sup> *Somner’s Antiq. of Canterbury*. p. 8.    <sup>4</sup> “ — quæ velut muscivis  
 “ scindulis cariosisque tabulis, tigno tenuis visibiliter diruta.” *Carta Regis Edgari, Wilkins Concil.*  
 vol. i. p. 260.    <sup>5</sup> *Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. ii. cap. 14.*



in *York* now stands; it was hastily erected on occasion of the conversion of *Edwin* King of *Northumberland*, for the purpose of baptizing that King; which was performed by *Paulinus* Bishop of *York*<sup>1</sup> on Easter-day, A.D. 627. When the King had resolved to become a Christian on the preaching of *Paulinus*, he determined to be publicly baptized; and therefore built this Church of Wood for that purpose: — He built it in haste, for the present exigency, and as a temporary expedient: — but he likewise informs us, that soon after the King was baptized, he laid the foundation of a stately and magnificent fabrick of Stone, in which that of Wood was included, and might probably be used for Divine Service whilst the other was in building.<sup>2</sup> This work was continued six years during that King's life, but before it was finished, he was slain; and it was carried on and finished by *Oswald* his Successor. Other instances of timber Fabricks occur in History, and other Oratories even of slighter materials,<sup>3</sup> erected on particular occasions. A wooden Church is mentioned by *Malmesbury*<sup>4</sup> in his life of *Aldhelm*, Bishop of *Shireburn*, in *Dultinge* a village in *Somersetshire*, where *Aldhelm* died; it belonged to the Abbey of *Glastonbury*, and the Monks there rebuilt it of Stone. *Bede* likewise tells us, that *Finan* Bishop of *Lindisfarne* or *Holy Island*, built there a Church for his Episcopal See, composed wholly of sawn Oak, and covered with Reed, according to the fashion of the *Scots*;<sup>5</sup> and that *Eadberct* one of his Successors there took off the Reed, and covered the whole, both the roof and sides with sheets of Lead. — However, these wooden Fabricks, 'tis probable, were not very common, even in those early times of the *Saxons*: and, as appears by the instances produced, some of them were intended only for temporary use; and the last-mentioned Church at *Lindisfarne*, was built after a manner peculiar to the *Scots*. This erroneous account of the *Saxon* Churches being generally of Wood, or, at least without any Pillars or Arches of Stone, Mr. *Somner* was probably led into, by relying on Mr. *Stow*, whose authority he vouches, and implicitly follows; and then mistaking the sense of that passage in King *Edgar's* Charter, applies it to the entire Fabricks, which was indeed applicable only to their Roofs: and when he comes to *Malmesbury's* account of the Architecture introduced by the *Normans*, which is there called *Novum genus ædificandi*, The new manner of building; Mr. *Somner* takes the novelty of it to consist, in it's being composed with Pillars and Arches; and therein differed from the *Saxon*.

BUT that the *Saxon* Churches were generally built of Stone, and not only so, but that they had Pillars and Arches, and some of them vaultings of Stone, there is sufficient testimony from authentic History, and the undoubted remains of them at this time.

THERE is great probability, that at the time the *Saxons* were converted, the art of constructing Arches and Vaultings, and supporting Stone Edifices by Columns,

was

<sup>1</sup> "Baptizatus est autem Eburaci in die Sancto Paschæ. — in Ecclesia S<sup>ci</sup> Petri Apostoli, quam ipse de ligno citato opere erexit." *Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. ii. c. 14.* " <sup>2</sup> Curavit majorem ipso in loco et augustiorem de lapide frabricare basilicam, in cujus medio ipsum quod prius fecerat oratorium includeretur." *Ibid.* <sup>3</sup> *Simeon Dunelm. lib. ii. cap. 1, 9.* — *Ingulphi Hist. pag. 4, 52. Edit. Gale.* — *Hist. Ramefienf. inter XV. Scriptores, per Gale. pag. 397.* — *Monast. Angl. vol. i. pag. 291. lin. 20.* <sup>4</sup> *Angl. Sacr. vol. ii. pag. 23.* <sup>5</sup> *Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. iii. cap. 25.*



was well known among them; they had many instances of such kind of buildings before them, in the Churches and other public Edifices erected in the times of the *Romans*. For notwithstanding the havock that had been made of the Christian Churches by the *Picts* and *Scots*, and by the *Saxons* themselves, some of them were then in being. *Bede* mentions two in the City of *Canterbury*; <sup>1</sup> that dedicated to St. *Martin* on the East-side of the City, wherein Queen *Bertha* performed her devotions, and *Augustin* and his companions made use of at their first coming: and the other, that which the King after his conversion gave to *Augustin*, and which he repaired and dedicated to *Our Blessed Saviour*, and made it his Archiepiscopal See. Besides these two ancient *Roman* Churches, it is likely there were others of the same Age, in different parts of the Kingdom, which were then repaired and restored to their former use.

AMONG other Fabricks of these times, may be reckoned the many heathen Temples used by the idolatrous *Saxons*; that they were built by the *Saxons* themselves, will probably be allowed; and that some of them were good buildings, will hardly admit of any doubt; since for that very reason Pope *Gregory* advised *Augustin*, <sup>2</sup> that the Temples ought not to be demolished, but only the Idols that were in them should be removed and destroyed, and then consecrated to the Service of the true God. The particular form in which these *Saxon* Temples were built, and wherein they differed from Christian Churches in their manner of building, may be difficult to determine with any degree of certainty: but as many of them were afterwards converted to Churches, <sup>3</sup> I see no reason to think otherwise of them, but that they might be similar in their construction, and differ only in the use they were put to.

ON King *Ethelbert*'s conversion, he with great zeal set about building of Churches: he laid the foundation of a new one for the Monastery of St. *Peter* and St. *Paul*, <sup>4</sup> which *Augustin* was then erecting; and designed it for the burying-place for himself and his successors Kings of *Kent*, and for the Archbishops of *Canterbury*: he also founded the Church of St. *Andrew* at *Rocheſter*, <sup>5</sup> and endowed it for an Episcopal See: and by his influence and authority, a new Bishoprick was erected in the Kingdom of the *East-Saxons*, where *Sebert* his nephew reigned under him; the See of which being fixed at *London*, he there also founded and endowed the Cathedral Church of St. *Paul*. <sup>6</sup> These were the earliest Churches erected after the conversion of the *Saxons* was begun: whether these were built by the *Saxons* themselves, or whether they procured Architects from other countries to build them, is not of any great moment to determine; since we are only considering the general state of Architecture in those times. Now though the account given us by *Bede* of these three Churches founded by King *Ethelbert* is very concise, and nothing is there mentioned in express terms of the particular manner, or of the materials with which they were built; yet some circumstances that he relates afterwards, seem plainly to indicate, that they were Stone buildings, and had both Pillars and Arches in their composition.

To instance the Church of St. *Peter* and St. *Paul*: when *Augustin* died, that Church not being finished, he was buried abroad; but as soon as it was consecrated, *Bede* tells

<sup>1</sup> *Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. i. cap. 26, and 33.*    <sup>2</sup> *Ibid. cap. 30.*    <sup>3</sup> *Monast. Angl. vol. iii. pag. 298.*

<sup>4</sup> *Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. i. cap. 33.*    <sup>5</sup> *Ibid. lib. ii. cap. 3.*    <sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*



tells us, that his body was brought into the Church, and decently interred *in porticu illius aquilonari*,<sup>1</sup> in the North Portico of the same. — He further speaks of another Portico in the same Church, in which Queen *Bertha*, King *Ethelbert*, and other Kings of *Kent* were buried; this he calls, *Porticus Sti. Martini*<sup>2</sup> to distinguish it from the former, and was probably the opposite or South-Portico. The word *Porticus* occurs several times in *Bede*, *Alcuin*, *Heddius*, and other ancient Saxon Writers, and is generally translated by the *English* word *Porch*; and so misleads us to think it synonymous with *Atrium* or *Vestibulum*, denoting a building withoutside the Church, at the entrance into it: whereas this can by no means be agreeable to *Bede's* meaning; for in his account of King *Ethelbert's* interment, he expresses himself in such terms as will not admit of that sense; — he was buried, says *Bede*, *in Porticu Sti. Martini intra ecclesiam*;<sup>3</sup> which shews that the *Porticus* was within the Church: and likewise in relating the burial of Archbishop *Theodore* A.D. 690. he says, he was buried *in Ecclesiâ Sti. Petri, in quâ omnium Episcoporum Doruvernensium sunt corpora deposita*,<sup>4</sup> in the Church of *St. Peter*, in which all the Bodies of the Bishops of *Canterbury* were interred; — though he had before said,<sup>5</sup> that they were all interred in the North Portico, except *Theodore* and *Berchtwald*, whose Bodies were buried *in ipsa Ecclesia*, in the Church itself; because that Portico could not conveniently hold any more.<sup>6</sup> — To make these several passages in *Bede* consistent, we must necessarily allow, that the Royal Family of *Kent*, and the first eight Archbishops

<sup>1</sup> *Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. ii. cap. 3.* <sup>2</sup> *Ibid. c. 5.* <sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* <sup>4</sup> *Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. v. c. 8.* <sup>5</sup> *Ibid. lib. ii. cap. 3.*

<sup>6</sup> The better to elucidate the sense of the word *Porticus*, the reader will be pleased to compare the following passages from *Bede* and other antient writers. — A.D. 721. obiit Johannes Ebor. Episcopus in Monasterio suo Beverlac, et “sepultus est in porticu S. Petri.” *Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. v. cap. 6.* — A.D. 726. obiit Tobias Rossensis Episcopus, et “sepultus est in porticu S. Pauli Apost. quam intro ecclesiam S. Andreæ sibi in locum sepulcri fecerat,” *Ibid. cap. 23.* — A.D. 977. Sidemannus Creditoniæ Episcopus “sepulturæ traditur in monasterio Abendonensi in parte Ecclesiæ Boreali, in porticu S. Pauli.” *Chron. Saxon.* — A.D. 1034. obiit Brithwius Wellensis Episcopus; “hic jacet in aquilonari porticu ad S. Johannem [Glattoniæ.] Britwoldus Wintoniensis [i. Wiltoniensis] Episcopus obiit A.D. 1045. hic sepultus fuit cum Brithwio in eadem ecclesia in parte aquilonari.” *Monast. Angl. vol. i. pag. 9.* — “In ambabus porticibus Coventriæ jacent ædificatores loci præcellentissimi conjuges.” (*scil. Comes Leofricus et Godiva Comitissa uxor ejus, qui Leofricus obiit A.D. 1057.*) *Ibid. pag. 302.* In all the above-cited places, a more considerable part of the Church is certainly intended by *Porticus*, than what is commonly understood by the *Church-Porch*, as it is usually rendered by our Ecclesiastical writers. It was frequently distinguished by the name of some Saint; for we read of *Porticus Sti. Martini* in *St. Augustin's Church* at *Canterbury*, *Porticus Sti. Gregorii* in *St. Peter's* at *York*, *Porticus Sti. Petri* at *Beverley*, *Porticus Sti. Pauli* in *St. Andrew's* at *Rocheſter*: and other distinctions of that kind, in many of our ancient Churches. The reason of which appears to be, that they were dedicated to the honour of those Saints. Thus we find by King *Edgar's* Charter to *Thorney-Abby*, that the Church there was dedicated A.D. 972. to *St. Mary*, *St. Peter*, and *St. Benedict*: — *i. e.* the East part of the Choir, where the Altar was placed, to *St. Mary*; the Western part to *St. Peter*; and the North *Porticus* to *St. Benedict.* *ibid. pag. 243.* — From all these instances, where the word *Porticus* occurs, it appears that the writers meant by it, either what is now commonly called the *Side-Iſſe* of the Church, or sometimes it may be a particular division of it, consisting of one arch with it's recess; as in the following passage in *Bede's* account of the Relicks and Ornaments with which the Church of *Hexham* was furnished by *Acca*, who succeeded *Wilfrid* in that Bishoprick] A.D. 710. — “Acquisitis undecumque reliquiis B. Apostolorum et Martyrum Christi in venerationem illorum Altaria distinctis porticibus in hoc ipsum intra muros Ecclesiæ posuit.” *Bedæ Hist. lib. v. cap. 20.*



of *Canterbury*, were all buried in this Church; — the former in *St. Martin's*, or the South Portico or Isle; — *Augustin* and his five immediate Successors in the North Portico or Isle; and *Theodore* and *Berētwald* in the body of the Church: — for when he says, the two latter were deposited *in ipsa Ecclesia*, — he certainly means no more by that expression, than the Nave or Body, as distinguished from the Side-Isles. It plainly appears then, that this, which was one of the first-erected *Saxon* Churches, consisted of a Nave and two Side-Isles; but how a Church of that form could have been supported without Pillars and Arches of stone, is not easy to conceive; — the very terms indeed seem necessarily to imply it. The same remark may be extended and applied to *St. Peter's* Church at *York*; which was a spacious and magnificent fabric of stone, founded A. D. 627. by King *Edwin* soon after he was baptized.<sup>1</sup> For that it had such Porticos within, appears from *Bede's* relation of the death of King *Edwin*, who was killed in battle A. D. 633. “His head, says he, was brought to *York*, and afterwards carried into the Church of the blessed Apostle *St. Peter*, — and deposited in *St. Gregory's* Portico.”<sup>2</sup>

OTHER notices occur in the same Author of Churches built in or near his own time, some of which are expressly said to have been built of stone; as *St. Peter's* in *York* last-mentioned, and the Church at *Lincoln* built by *Paulinus*, after he had converted *Blaccca* Prefect or Governor of that city, which was a stone Church of excellent workmanship<sup>3</sup>; and those other Churches he speaks of might have been of stone, for aught that appears to the contrary. *Bede* is indeed rather sparing in his description of them; so that little is to be collected from him of their manner of building; he says nothing in direct terms either of Pillars or Arches in any of his Churches; though the word *Porticus*, which he frequently uses, may be said to imply both; as it certainly does in some instances, if not in all. He is a little more particular in his account of *St. Peter's* Church in the Monastery of *Wormouth* in the neighbourhood of *Gyrwi*, where he had his education, and lived all his days. This was built by the famous *Benedict Biscopius*;<sup>4</sup> In the year 675. this Abbat went over into *France* to engage workmen to build his Church after the *Roman* manner (as it is there called) and brought them over with him for that purpose. He prosecuted this work with extraordinary zeal and diligence; infomuch that within the compass of a year after the foundations were laid, he caused the roof to be put on, and divine Service to be performed in it. Afterwards when the building was nearly finished,

<sup>1</sup> — Mox ut baptismum consecutus est [Ædwinus] majorem et augustiorem de lapide fabricare curavit basilicam. Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. ii. cap. 14.

<sup>2</sup> Adlatum est caput Ædwin Regis Eburacum, et inlatum postea in ecclesiam B. Apostoli Petri; — positum est in porticu S. Papæ Gregorii. Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. ii. cap. 20. — Mr. Collier cites this Passage from Bede, and seems to have adopted the common error, of taking *Porticus* for a building without-side the Church; and thence falsely infers, that it was not the custom of that Age to bury within-side. “King Edwin's head (says he) was deposited in *St. Gregory's* Porch; from whence we may probably conclude, that his Children before-mentioned, who are said to have been buried in the Church, were only buried in the Porch, the custom of that age going no further.” Collier's Ch. Hist. vol. i. pag. 86.

<sup>3</sup> In qua civitate et ecclesiam operis egregii de lapide fecit. Bedæ Hist. lib. ii. cap. 14.

<sup>4</sup> Bedæ Hist. Abbatum Wiremuth. et Gyrw. pag. 295.



finished, he sent over to *France* for Artificers skilled in the mystery of making glass, (an art till that time 'unknown to the inhabitants of *Britain*,) to glaze the windows both of the Porticos and the principal parts of the Church; which work they not only executed, but taught the *English* Nation that most useful art.

WE have still more certain and explicit accounts of Churches built in the Northern parts of the Kingdom, during this Century, in which both Pillars and Arches are expressly mentioned. *Eddius* who was contemporary with *Bede*, wrote the Life of *Wilfrid* Bishop of *York*, and among other things, informs us of many Religious Structures erected by that magnificent Prelate; several of which, as appears by his description, were very elegant and sumptuous Buildings; besides which he thoroughly repaired the Church of *St. Peter* in *York*,<sup>2</sup> which had received great injuries in the wars between *Penda* King of *Mercia* and the *Northumbrians*, a few years after it was finished; he put on a new roof, and covered it with lead, and glazed the windows,<sup>3</sup> about the year 669.

THE Churches founded by *Wilfrid*, and particularly described by *Eddius*, are the Conventual Church of *Rippon* in *Yorkshire*, and the Cathedral Church of *Hexham* in *Northumberland*; of the former he gives this account: He raised on high and completed the Church in *Rippon*, from the foundations in the ground to its utmost height, with hewn stone, and supported it with various kinds of Pillars and Porticos.<sup>4</sup>— This elegant Church soon after it was finished, was with great solemnity consecrated by himself, and dedicated to the honour of *St. Peter*, in the presence of King *Egfrid*, and all the Abbats and Great men of that Kingdom. But of all the Churches built in that Age, that of *St. Andrew* in *Hexham* deserves our particular notice. *Hexham*, with the adjoining Territory, was part of the Crown-land of the Kings of *Northumberland*, and being settled in dower by King *Egfrid* on his Queen *St. Etheldreda*, Bishop *Wilfrid*, with the King's consent, obtained a grant of it, in order to raise it to an Episcopal See.<sup>5</sup> In the year 674, *Wilfrid* begun the foundation of this celebrated Church, and *Eddius* speaks with great admiration of it in this manner: "Its deep foundations

<sup>1</sup> What *Bede* here affirms of Abbat *Benedict*, that he first introduced the Art of making Glass into this Kingdom, is by no means inconsistent with *Eddius's* account of Bp. *Wilfrid's* glazing the windows of *St. Peter's* Church at *York* about the years 669. *i. e.* seven or eight years before this time. For glass might have been imported from abroad by *Wilfrid*; but *Benedict* first brought over the Artists, who taught the *Saxons* the Art of making Glass. — That the Windows in Churches were usually glazed in that Age abroad, as well as in these parts, we learn from *Bede*; who speaking of the Church on Mount *Olivet*, about a mile from *Jerusalem*, says, in the West-front of it were eight windows, which on some occasions used to be illuminated with lamps, which shone so bright through the Glass, that the Mount seemed in a blaze. *Bedæ Lib. de locis Sanctis*, cap. 6.

<sup>2</sup> *Eddii Stephani vita S. Wilfridi*, inter XV. Scriptores, cap. xvi. p. 59. Edit. Gale.

<sup>3</sup> — Primum culmina corrupta tecti renovans, artificiose plumbo puro tegens, per fenestras introitus avium et imbrium vitro prohibuit, per quod tamen intro lumen radiebat. *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> — In Hrypis Basilicam polito lapide a fundamentis in terra usque ad summum ædificatam, variis columnis et porticibus sustentam in altum erexit, et consummavit. *Eddii vita Wilfridi*, ut supra, cap. xvii. pag. 59.

<sup>5</sup> *Malmesb. de Gestis Pontif. Angl.* pag. 272. — *Rich. Prior Hagulst. de Statu Ecclesiæ &c.* lib. i. cap. 2, 3, 7. — *Lib. Elien. MS.* fol. ii.



tions, and the many subterraneous rooms there artfully disposed, and aboveground the great variety of buildings to be seen, all of hewn stone and supported by sundry kinds of Pillars and many Porticos, and set off by the surprizing length and height of the walls, surrounded with various mouldings and bands curiously wrought, and the turnings and windings of the passages, sometimes ascending, or descending by winding Stairs to the different parts of the building; all which it is not easy to express or describe by words, &c. neither is there any Church of the like sort to be found on this side the *Alpes*.”<sup>1</sup>

*Richard Prior of Hexham*, who flourished about A.D. 1180. in whose time this famous Church was standing, though in a decaying state, more fully describes the manner of it's building:<sup>2</sup> “The foundations of this Church, says he, *St. Wilfrid* laid deep in the earth for the Crypts and Oratories, and the passages leading to them, which were there with great exactness contrived and built underground: The walls which were of a great length and raised to an immense height, and divided into three several Stories or Tires, he supported by square and various other kinds of well-polished columns:—Also the walls, the capitals of the columns which supported them, and the arch of the Sanctuary, he decorated with historical representations, imagery, and various figures in relief, carved in stone, and painted with a most agreeable variety of colours: The body of the Church he encompassed about with pences and porticos, which both above and below he divided with great and inexpressible art, by partition-walls and winding-stairs: Within the stair-cases and above them, he caused flights of steps and galleries of stone, and several passages leading from them, both for ascending and descending, to be so artfully disposed, that multitudes of people might be there, and go quite round the Church, without being seen by any one below in the Nave: Moreover, in the several divisions of the

<sup>1</sup> — Nam in Hagustaldense adepta regione et [l. a] regina Æthildrite Domino dedicata, domum Domino in honorem Beati Andreae Apostoli fabrefactam fundavit: cujus profunditatem in terra cum domibus mirifice politis lapidibus fundatam, et super terram multiplicem domum, columnis variis et porticibus multis sustutam, mirabilique longitudine et altitudine murorum ornatam, et variis linearum anfractibus, viarum aliquando sursum aliquando deorsum per cochleas circumductam, non est meæ parvitatibus hoc sermone explicare quod sanctus ipse præsul animarum, a Spiritu Dei doctus, opere facere excogitavit; neque ullam domum aliam citra Alpes montes talem ædificatam audivimus. Eddii Vita Wilfridi, cap. xxii. pag. 62.

<sup>2</sup> — Profunditatem ipsius ecclesiæ criptis et oratoriis subterraneis, et viarum anfractibus, inferius cum magna industria fundavit: Parietes autem quadratis et variis et bene politis columpnis sustentos, et tribus tabulatis distinctos immensæ longitudinis et altitudinis erexit: Ipsos etiam et capitella columpnarum quibus sustentantur, et arcum Sanctuarii historiis et imaginibus et variis celaturarum figuris ex lapide prominentibus et picturatum et colorum grata varietate mirabilique decore decoravit: Ipsum quoque corpus ecclesiæ appendiciis et porticibus undique circumcinxit, quæ miro atque inexplicabili artificio per parietes et cochleas interius et superius distinxit: In ipsis vero cochleis et super ipsis, ascensoria ex lapide et deambulatoria, et varios viarum anfractus modo sursum modo deorsum artificiosissime ita machinari fecit, ut innumera hominum multitudo ibi existeret, et ipsam corpus ecclesiæ circumdare possit, cum a nemine tamen infra in ea existentium videri queat: Oratoria quoque quam plurima superius et inferius secretissima et pulcherrima in ipsis porticibus cum maxima diligentia et cautela constituit, in quibus altaria in honore B. Dei Genitricis semperque Virginis *Mariæ* et *S. Michaelis* Archangeli Sanctique *Johannis* Bapt. et Sanctorum Apostolorum, Martyrum, Confessorum atque Virginum, cum eorum apparatibus honestissime præparari fecit: Unde etiam usque hodie quadam illorum ut turres et propugnacula supereminent. Richardi Prioris Hagust. lib. i. cap. 3.



the porticos or isles both above and below, he erected many most beautiful and private Oratories of exquisite workmanship; and in them he caused to be placed altars in honour of the Blessed Virgin *Mary*, *St. Michael*, *St. John Baptist*, and holy Apostles, Martyrs, Confessors, and Virgins, with all decent and proper furniture to each of them; some of which remaining at this day, appear like so many turrets and fortified places." He also mentions some other particulars of this Church, and concludes with telling us, "It appears from ancient History and Chronicles, that of all the nine Monasteries over which that venerable Bishop presided, and of all others throughout *England*, this Church of *St. Andrew* in *Hexham* was the most elegant and sumptuous, and that it's equal was not to be met with on this side the *Alpes*."<sup>1</sup> The same Historian further informs us, that there were in his time at *Hexham* two other Churches;<sup>2</sup> one not far from the wall of the Mother Church, of admirable work, built in form of a Tower and almost circular, having on the four principal points, so many porticos, and was dedicated to the honour of the blessed Virgin *Mary*; the other a little further off, dedicated to *St. Peter*; besides a third on the other side of the river *Tine*, about a mile distant from the town, dedicated to *St. Michael* the Archangel;<sup>3</sup> and that the general tradition was, that these three Churches were founded by *Bp. Wilfrid*, but finished by his Successor *Acca*.

It may be collected from *Bede*,<sup>4</sup> that Churches and Monasteries were very scarce in *Northumberland* about the middle of this Century; but before the end of it, several very elegant ones were erected in that Kingdom, owing chiefly to the noble spirit of *Wilfrid* Bishop of *York*. This Prelate was then in high favour with *Oswi* and *Egfrid* Kings of *Northumberland*, and most of the Nobility of that Kingdom; by whose unbounded liberality in lands, and plate and jewels, and all kind of rich furniture, he rose to a degree of opulency, as to vie with Princes in state and magnificence; and this enabled him to found several rich Monasteries, and build such stately edifices in those parts, as cannot but excite the admiration of posterity.<sup>5</sup> To prosecute these great undertakings, he gave all due encouragement to the most skilful builders and artificers of every kind, eminent in their several ways, and by proper rewards always kept them in his service, to the great advantage and emolument of his country; some of these he procured at *Canterbury*, when he had prevailed on *Eddius* and *Eona* to undertake the instructing his Choirs in the *Roman* manner of singing;<sup>6</sup> other eminent builders and artists he invited, or brought over with him from *Rome*, *Italy*, *France*, and other Countries for that purpose;<sup>7</sup> and according to

*Mulme-*

<sup>1</sup> Richard Prior Hagustal. lib. i. cap. 3. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. c. 4. <sup>3</sup> Bedæ Hist. lib. v. c. 2. lin. 17. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. lib. ii. cap. 14. — and lib. iii. cap. 2.

<sup>5</sup> The famous Abbat *Benedict Biscopius*, sometime companion of *Wilfrid* in his travels, was about that time engaged in the same noble designs, and founded the Monasteries of *St. Peter* and *St. Paul* at *Wormouth* and *Gyrwi*.

<sup>6</sup> — Cum Cantoribus *Eddæ* et *Eona*, et cæmentariis, omnisque pene artis ministerio in regionem suam revertens, cum regula *Benedicti* instituta ecclesiarum Dei bene melioravit. *Eddii* vit. *S. Wilfridi* cap. 14. — Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. iv. cap. 2.

<sup>7</sup> — de *Roma* quoque, et *Italia*, et *Francia*, et de aliis terris ubicumque invenire poterat, cæmentarios, et quolibet alios industrios artifices secum retinuerat, et ad opera sua facienda secum in *Angliam* adduxerat. Rich. Prior Hagust. lib. i. cap. 5.



*Malmesbury* and *Eddius*, was eminent for his knowledge and skill in the science of Architecture, and himself the principal director in all those works, in concert with those excellent masters, whom the hopes of preferment had invited from *Rome* and other places,<sup>1</sup> to execute those excellent plans which he had formed: but of all his works, the Church of *Hexham* was the first and most sumptuous, and as far as appears, was never equalled by any other in this kingdom whilst the *Saxons* continued to govern: Indeed there was no period since the establishment of Christianity among them, in which those polite and elegant arts that embellish life and adorn the country, seem to have made so great advances as during the time he continued in favour. Neither was his fame confined to the Kingdom of *Northumberland*; his great abilities and reputation for learning, gained him respect in the other Kingdoms of the Heptarchy: *Wulfere* and *Ethelred* Kings of *Mercia* often invited him thither to perform the Episcopal office among them, and for his advice and instructions in founding several monasteries. He also happily finished the conversion of the Heptarchy, by preaching the Gospel to the Kingdom of the *South-Saxons*, containing what are now the Counties of *Surry* and *Suffex*, the only one which remained till that time unconverted; for which end he had been kindly entertained by King *Edikwalch*, who gave him the peninsula of *Selesea*;<sup>2</sup> where also he founded a Monastery, in which the Episcopal See was at first placed, but afterwards removed to *Chichester*. And that the Church and Monastery at *Ely* founded by St. *Etheldreda*, were built under his direction, seems highly probable, as from many other circumstances, so in particular from what is related by the *Ely* Historian;<sup>3</sup> viz. that he spent a considerable time with her, on her coming to *Ely*, in settling the œconomy of her Convent, was intrusted with the whole conducting of her affairs, and (if I rightly understand his meaning,) formed the plan of her Monastery; though the necessary funds for carrying on the work, he tells us, were supplied by her brother *Aldulfus* King of the *East-Angles*. There are very considerable ruins of this ancient *Saxon* Monastery at *Ely* still in being, especially of the Church that belonged to it; — what kind of Fabric that was, we shall be the better able to determine, when we come to take a view of those venerable remains, and shall give a more particular description of them in

<sup>1</sup> — Ibi [apud *Hagustalibem*] ædificia minaci altitudine murorum erecta, — mirabile quantum expolivit, arbitrato quidem multa proprio, sed et cæmentariorum, quos ex *Roma* spes munificentiae attraxerat, magisterio &c. Will. Malmesb. de gestis Pontif. Angl. pag. 272. — Eddii vit. S. Wilfridi, cap. 22.

<sup>2</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. iv. cap. 13. — Eddii vit. S. Wilfridi. cap. 40.

<sup>3</sup> — Solus autem Wilfridus Pontifex, quem Virgo Regina præ omnibus in regno dilectum et electum habuerat, suis tunc necessitatibus provisorem adhibuit, jura illic administravit Episcopalia; a quo, sicut in Beda legitur, facta est Abbatissa. Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 15.

— Post modicum fratris sui memorati Regis Aldulfi auxiliis majore inibi [in *Ely*] constructo Monasterio Virginum Deo devotarum perplurium, mater virgo et exemplis vitæ cœpit esse et monitis, quarum usibus ex integro insulam constituit. Ibid.

Sanctus Wilfridus — ut eam in *Ely* descendisse cognoverat, festinus advolat, de animæ commodis, de statu mentis, de qualitate conversationis tractatur. Deinde in Abbatissæ officio eam gremioque illic adunatum consecravit, locum sua dispositione constituit, seque in omnibus sollicitum exhibuit; ubi vitam non solum sibi, sed cunctis ibidem existentibus utilem aliquanto tempore duxit; a quo ipsa plurimum regendi consilium et vitæ solatium habuit. Ibid. cap. 16.



in the state they now are. In the mean time I shall proceed in some further observations on the state of Architecture among the *Saxons*, and show not only that the opinion which some authors have entertained of their Churches and Monasteries, as if they were usually wooden fabricks, is erroneous, and has no foundation in true history; but also that very elegant stone buildings supported by pillars and arches were very common with them.

IN the beginning of the 8th. Century, the same stile of Architecture that was used here in *England* by the *Saxons*, was making it's way into the more Northern parts of this Island; for *Bede* tells us,<sup>1</sup> that in the year 710. *Naiton* King of the *Picts* in a letter he wrote to *Ceolfred* Abbat of *Girawy* informed him, among other things, of his intending to build a Church of stone to the honour of *St. Peter*; requesting, at the same time, to send him some Artificers to build it after the *Roman* manner. Hence it should seem that the stile of Architecture generally used in that Age in *England*, was called the *Roman* manner, and was the same that was then used at *Rome*, in *Italy*, and in other parts of the Empire.

ABOUT the same time, A. D. 716. *Ethelbald* King of *Mercia* founded the Monastery of *Croyland* in *Lincolnshire*.<sup>2</sup> The soil was marshy, and not well able to support a Fabrick of stone: in which circumstances a timber building might be thought most expedient, on account of it's lightness, had such been generally used in that age. However we find the King caused a vast number of large oaken piles to be driven into the ground, and more solid earth to be brought in boats nine miles by water, and laid thereon, to make it the more sound and commodious for building; and then laid the foundation of the Church of stone, which he finished, and also all the necessary offices of that Monastery, on which he bestowed many Ornaments and Privileges, and liberally endowed it.

BUT perhaps one of the most complete Saxon Churches that we have any authentic account of, is that of *St. Peter* in *York*, as it was rebuilt about the middle of the 8th. Century. The Church founded there by King *Edwin*, and finished by his Successor King *Oswald*, and afterwards repaired by Bishop *Wilfrid*, as mentioned before; having received great damage by a fire, which happened in the year 741.<sup>3</sup> Archbishop *Albert* who was promoted to that See A. D. 767. thought proper to take it wholly down and rebuild it. This *Albert* was of a Noble family and a native of *York*; in his younger days he was sent by his parents to a Monastery, where making a great proficiency in learning, he was ordained a Deacon and afterwards a Priest; being taken into the Family of Archbishop *Egbert*, to whom he was nearly related in blood, he was by him preferred to the Mastership of the celebrated School at *York*, where he employed himself in educating youth in Grammar, Rhetoric, and Poetry, and taught also Astronomy, Natural Philosophy, and Divinity. He afterwards travelled, and visited *Rome*, and the most eminent seats of learning abroad, and was solicited by several foreign Princes to stay, but declined it; and returning home, he brought

with

<sup>1</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. v. cap. 21. <sup>2</sup> Ingulphi Hist. Croyland. pag. 4. <sup>3</sup> Chron. Mailros, Simeon Dunelm, & Hoveden ad annum 741. — Tanner's Notit. Monast. pag. 627.



with him a fine collection of Books he had met with in his travels, and soon after was made Archbishop of *York*. Finding his Church in a ruinous condition, occasioned probably by the late fire, and perhaps not sufficiently repaired since that accident, he determined to take it wholly down, and to rebuild it. The principal Architects he employed in that work were two of his own Church, and who had received their education under him, namely, *Eanbald* (who afterwards succeeded him in the See of *York*), and the famous *Alcuin*; both of them reckoned among the most learned men of that Age; who with great zeal and unanimity, begun, carried on, and finished it in a few years; and, as appears by the description, executed the work in a most sumptuous and magnificent manner. *Albert* just lived to see his Church compleated; for growing old and infirm, he either resigned his See, or took *Eanbald*, his intended Successor, for his coadjutor in the Episcopal office, the three or four last years of his life; and they both assisted at the consecration of it, only ten days before his death, which happened according to *Alcuin* November the 8th. 780. His noble collection of Books he deposited in the Library at *York*, probably the same that is said to have been founded by Archbishop *Egbert*;<sup>1</sup> but which he greatly augmented by the addition of all those he had procured in his travels abroad; and committed them to the custody of the learned *Alcuin*, who gratefully celebrates the memory of his Patron, and ranks him in the highest class amongst men of eminence in that age for learning, piety, and munificence; and has at the same time left us a description of this Church, which I shall give below in his own words.<sup>2</sup>

FROM the description here given, in which the principal members, and requisites of a complete and finished Edifice are expressed, Pillars, Arches, Vaulted roofs, Windows, Porticos, Galleries, and variety of Altars, with their proper ornaments and decorations; the reader will in some measure be able to form a judgement of the whole, and be apt to conclude, that Architecture was carried in that age to some considerable degree of perfection.

Mr. *Walpole*, in his *Anecdotes of Painting in England*, and incidental Notes on other Arts, observes<sup>3</sup>, “that as all the other Arts, were formerly confined to Cloisters, so also was Architecture too; and that when we read that such a Bishop or such an Abbat built such and such an Edifice, they often gave the Plans, as well as furnished the necessary funds.” The justness of this observation appears in this instance of rebuilding

St.

<sup>1</sup> Willielm. Malmesburienf. de Pontificibus Angl. lib.iii. f. 153.

<sup>2</sup> “*Ast nova basilicæ miræ structura diebus  
Præfulis hujus erat jam capta, peracta, sacrata.  
Hæc nimis alta domus solidis suffulta columnis,  
Supposita quæ stant curvatis arcubus, intus  
Emicat egregiis laquearibus atque fenestris,  
Pulchraque porticibus fulget circumdata multis,  
Plurima diversis retinens solaris tectis,*

*Quæ triginta tenet variis ornatibus aras.  
Hoc duo discipuli templum, Doctore jubente,  
Ædificarunt Eanbaldus et Alcuinus, ambo  
Concordes operi devota mente studentes.  
Hoc tamen ipse Pater socio cum Præsule templum  
Ante die decima quam clauderet ultima vitæ  
Lumina præsentis, Sopiæ sacraverat alma.”*

This account of Archbishop *Albert*, and his rebuilding St. *Peter's* Church in *York*, is extracted from *Alcuin's* Poem *De Pontificibus et Sanctis Ecclesiæ Ebor.* published by Dr. Gale A.D. 1691. in which his life is more fully wrote. — The name of *Albert* is barely mentioned by Bishop *Godwin*, in his catalogue of Bishops; though his great learning, piety and munificence well deserve to have his Name transmitted to latest posterity.

<sup>3</sup> Vol. i. p. 110.



*St. Peter's* in *York*, of which *Eanbald* and *Alcuin* were the chief Architects; in that of the Church belonging to *Gyrwi* Monastery, built by Abbat *Benedict Biscopius*; and those of the Churches of *Rippon*, *Hexham*, and *Ely*, by Bp. *Wilfrid*; and in many other instances that occur in History; some of which may be taken notice of afterwards. And indeed it is highly probable that the principal Architects of many or most of our best Churches and Monasteries, both in this and succeeding ages, were some or other of those religious societies themselves, who generally speaking wanted only inferior Artists and workmen to carry their designs into execution; and even of these they were in part supplied out of their own Houses, where the elegant and polite Arts, particularly those of Sculpture and Painting, were much cultivated and improved.

In the 9th. Century, the frequent and almost continual invasions of this Kingdom by the *Danes*, introduced the greatest disorder and confusion in the state, and brought it almost to the brink of ruin. War and it's necessary attendants, the desolation and destruction of our Churches, Monasteries, and other Edifices both publick and private, with the slaughter of the inhabitants, take up the greatest part of the Annals of those times. Mean while Arts and Sciences, which in the last century had been in a very flourishing condition, began to be neglected, and Religion and Learning lost their proper influence on men's minds, and were sinking apace into disrepute and contempt.<sup>1</sup> In the midst of these publick calamities however, it pleased Providence to raise to the throne *Alfred* worthily surnamed *the Great*.<sup>2</sup> The vigorous measures he pursued to rescue his country from the hands of those barbarous invaders of it, and to restore it to it's former lustre, deserve the highest encomiums. Engaged as he was in continual wars during his whole reign of near thirty years, he never ceased to exert his utmost endeavours to restore religion and learning, to promote commerce, to cultivate and improve all the fine and elegant arts.<sup>3</sup> His Court was the resort of learned men of all professions, as well his own subjects, as foreigners, invited thither from the neighbouring Kingdoms, and retained there by proper rewards.<sup>4</sup> Among his other accomplishments, he was skilful in Architecture, and excelled his predecessors in elegance of building and adorning his palaces;<sup>5</sup> in constructing large ships for the security of his coasts,<sup>6</sup> and erecting castles in convenient parts of the kingdom. Indeed Architecture before this time had been almost wholly confined to religious structures; but now was by *Alfred* and his two immediate Successors chiefly applied to military purposes, in erecting Fortresses and Towers, and in building and repairing walled-towns, become necessary to curb the insolence and perfidy of the *Danes*;—and thus by adding to the defence and security, he also greatly improved the face of the Country.<sup>7</sup> He also encouraged the repairing of Churches, founded two Monasteries, and restored some others:<sup>8</sup> and to all these great works he allotted, and constantly expended a considerable part of his revenue.<sup>9</sup> But the mischiefs the Kingdom had sustained were immense, and the evils too heavy to be soon removed, and indeed required more than one age to do it: for it is certain that neither the exalted genius, nor the active zeal even of the Great *Alfred* himself were

ever

<sup>1</sup> *Affer. de Rebus Gestis Alfredi.* p. 27. <sup>2</sup> *Floren. Wigorn.* A.D. 871. <sup>3</sup> *Matth. Westmon.* ad an. 888. <sup>4</sup> *Ingulphi Hist.* pag. 27. Edit. Gale. <sup>5</sup> *Flor. Wigorn.* ad an. 871. & 887. <sup>6</sup> *Matth. Westm.* ad an. 897. <sup>7</sup> *Ingulphi Hist.* p. 27. <sup>8</sup> *Flor. Wigorn.* ad an. 887. <sup>9</sup> *Ibid.* — *Matth. Westm.* ad an. 888.



ever able effectually to remove them. Part of this work however was carried on by his Successor in the next age.

*Edward* his son who succeeded him in the year 900, though inferior to his Father in learning, surpassed him in martial glory.<sup>1</sup> His genius too was turned to Architecture, but it was chiefly military: he built fortresses in different parts of the Kingdom, encompassed cities and great towns with walls and other means of defence, to check the sudden incursions of the *Danes*; out of whose hands he wrested the Kingdoms of the *East-Angles* and *Northumberland*, and obliged the *Scots* and *Welsh* to own his sovereignty.<sup>2</sup> He is said to have repaired the University of *Cambridge*,<sup>3</sup> after it had been burnt by the *Danes*; though whether is meant of restoring it as a seat of learning, or only rebuilding the town, is not clear. Some Churches and Monasteries, indeed were founded or repaired in his reign, in that of *Atbelstan*,<sup>4</sup> and of his immediate Successors; but the more general restoration of them, was reserved for the peaceable times of King *Edgar*.

*Edgar* is said to have founded more than forty Monasteries;<sup>5</sup> but they were chiefly such as had been destroyed by the *Danes*, and were either in possession of the secular Clergy, or had laid desolate to that time; and so may more properly be said to have been repaired only, and restored to their former use: however several Monasteries were first founded in his time; and by the accounts we have of them, it appears that some new improvements in Architecture had lately been made, or were about that time introduced. The famous Abby of *Ramsay* in *Huntingdonshire*,<sup>6</sup> was one of these; and was founded by *Ailwin* Alderman of all *England*, as he is stiled, with the assistance of *Oswald* Bishop of *Worcester*, afterwards Archbishop of *York*. All the Offices and the Church belonging to this Monastery were new built, under the direction of *Ednoth* one of the Monks of *Worcester*, sent thither for that purpose. This Church, which was six years in building, was finished in the year 974, and in the same year on the eighth of *November*, with great solemnity, dedicated by *Oswald*, then raised to the Archiepiscopal See of *York*, assisted by *Alfnoth* Bishop of the Diocese, in the presence of *Ailwin* and other great Men. By a description given of this Church in the History of that Abby,<sup>7</sup> it appears to have had "two Towers raised above the Roof, one of them at the West-end of the Church, affording a noble prospect at a distance to them that approached the Island; the other, which was larger, was supported by four Pillars in the middle of the Building, where it divided in four parts, being connected together by Arches, which extended to other adjoining Arches, to keep them from giving way." From this passage one may easily collect, that the plan of this new Church was a Cross, with Side-Isles, and was adorned with two Towers,

<sup>1</sup> Matth. Westm. et Floren. Wigorn. ad an. 901. Ingulphi Hist. p. 28. <sup>2</sup> Matth. Westm. ad an. 907. Floren. Wigorn. ad an. 921. <sup>3</sup> Rudborne, Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 209. <sup>4</sup> Ingulphi. Hist. p. 29. — Matth. Westm. ad. an. 939. — Malmesb. de Pontif. lib. v. p. 362. Edit. Gale inter xv Scriptores. <sup>5</sup> Matth. Westm. et Flor. Wigorn. ad an. 957. — " — non fuit in Anglia Monasterium sive Ecclesia cujus non emendaret cultum vel ædificia." Monast. Angl. vol. i. pag. 33. <sup>6</sup> Hist. Ramesiensis, cap. xx. pag. 399. inter xv Scriptores, Edit. per Gale. <sup>7</sup> " — duæ quoque turres ipsis tectorum culminibus eminebant, quarum minor versus occidentem in fronte Basilicæ pulchrum intrantibus insulam a longe spectaculum præbebat; major vero in quadrifidæ structuræ medio columnas quatuor, porrectis de alia ad aliam arcibus sibi invicem connexas, ne laxè defluerent, deprimebat." Ibid.



Towers, one in the West-front, and the other in the intersection of the Cross; a mode of building, I apprehend, which had not then been long in use here in *England*; for it is obvious to remark, that in the descriptions we have remaining of the more ancient *Saxon* Churches, as particularly those of *St. Andrew's* at *Hexham*, and *St. Peter's* at *York*,<sup>1</sup> fully enough described; not a word occurs, by which it can be inferred, that these, or indeed any other of them, had either Cross-buildings or high Towers raised above their Roofs; but, as far as we can judge, were mostly square,<sup>2</sup> or rather oblong buildings, and generally turned circular at the East-end;<sup>3</sup> in form nearly, if not exactly, resembling the *Basilica*, or Courts of Justice in great Cities throughout the *Roman* Empire; many of which, were in fact, converted into *Christian* Churches,<sup>4</sup> on the first establishment of Christianity under *Constantine the Great*; and new-erected Churches were constructed on the same plan, on account of its manifest utility for the reception of large Assemblies. Hence *Basilica* was commonly used in that, and several succeeding Ages for *Ecclesia* or Church, and continued so even after the form of our Churches was changed. Now these *Basilicae* differed in their manner of construction from the *Templa*; for the Pillars of these latter were on the outside of the Building, and consequently their Porticos exposed to the weather; but the Pillars of the former were within, and their Porticos open only towards the Nave or main body of the Building; their chief entrance also was on one end, the other usually terminating in a semicircle: and this, I conceive, was the general form of our oldest *Saxon* Churches. The plan of the old Conventual Church at *Ely*, founded in the year 673, conveys a good idea of it; except that the original circular end having been occasionally taken down, as I find, in the year 1102, and another building, ending also in a semicircle, erected in its room; the original form is traced out by dotted lines, (as at a. Plate iv.)

It is highly probable that the use of Bells gave occasion to the first and most considerable alteration that was made in the general plan of our Churches, by the necessity it induced of having strong and high-raised edifices for their reception. The *Æra* indeed of the invention of Bells is somewhat obscure;<sup>5</sup> and it must be owned that some traces of them may be discovered in our Monasteries even in the seventh Century;<sup>6</sup> yet I believe, one may venture to assert, that such large ones as required distinct buildings for their support, do not appear to have been in use among us till the tenth Century; about the middle of which we find several of our Churches were furnished with them, by the munificence of our Kings.<sup>7</sup> And the account we have of *St. Dunstan's* gifts to *Malmesbury* Abby, by their Historian, plainly shows they were

not

<sup>1</sup> See pag. 22. 26. <sup>2</sup> *St. Peter's* at *York*, begun by King *Edwin* A.D. 627, is particularly reported by *Bede* to have been of that form; "per quadrum cœpit ædificare basilicam." *Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. ii. cap. 14.* <sup>3</sup> An ancient Church at *Abbeidan*, built about the year 675, by *Heane* the first Abbat of that place, was an oblong building, 120 feet in length; and what is singular, was of a circular form on the West, as well as on the East. — "habebat in longitudine 120 pedes, et erat rotundum tam in parte occidentali, quàm in parte orientali." *Monast. Angl. vol. i. pag. 98.* <sup>4</sup> *Camden's Britannia. col. 780. Edit. Gibson.* <sup>5</sup> *Vid. Spelmani Gloss. ad Campana.* <sup>6</sup> *Bedæ Hist. lib. iv. cap. 23.* <sup>7</sup> *Ethelstanus Rex* (circa A.D. 935.) dedit quatuor magnas Campanas *Sto. Cuthberto.* *Monast. Angl. vol. i. pag. 40. lin. 52.* — "*Rex Eadredus* duo Signa non modica *Ecclesiæ Eboracensi* donavit." *Matth. West. ad annum 946.* — *Rex Edgarus*, circa A.D. 974. *Ecclesiæ Ramesiensi* dedit, "— duas Campanas, 20 librarum pretio comparatas." *Hist. Ramesien. cap. 22. Edit. Gale.*



not very common in that age; for he says,<sup>1</sup> the liberality of that Prelate consisted chiefly in such things as were then wonderful and strange in *England*; among which he reckons the large Bells, and Organs he gave them. But from this period they became more frequent, and in time the common Furniture to our Churches.

BELLS, no doubt, at first suggested the necessity of Towers; Towers promised to the imagination something noble and extraordinary, in the uncommon effects they were capable of producing by their requisite loftiness and variety of forms: — the hint was improved, and Towers were built not only for necessary use,<sup>2</sup> but often for symmetry and ornament, in different parts of the Fabrick; and particularly, when the plan of a Cross was adopted, the usefulness of such a building appeared in the intersection of the Cross, adding strength to the whole, by its incumbent weight on that part.<sup>3</sup> This is the short History of the origin of Towers and Steeples; which always have been, and still are considered as the pride and ornament of our Churches. Possibly, these innovations might begin under King *Alfred*: the encomiums bestowed on him as an Architect,<sup>4</sup> look that way, and seem to point at some notable improvements in that art in his time; perhaps from models imported from abroad, by some of the learned Foreigners he usually entertained in his Court. However, there is room enough for panegyric on that head,<sup>5</sup> without ascribing to him, “the re-edifying and restoring almost every Monastery in his Dominions, which either the prevailing poverty of the times, or the sacrilegious fury of the *Danes*, had brought to ruin, — his building many and improving more:”<sup>6</sup> all which may with great truth and propriety be applied to King *Edgar*: — it is sufficient to say there were two Monasteries undoubtedly of *Alfred's* foundation, *Athelney* and *Shaftesbury*. Of the former some account is given by *Malmesbury*; <sup>7</sup> it was situate on a small River-Island in *Somersetshire*, containing only two acres of firm ground, surrounded with an extensive morass, which rendered it difficult of access: King *Alfred* founded it there in pursuance of a religious vow, as it had once afforded him a safe retreat in time of his great distress: “The Church, on account of its confined situation, was not large, but constructed in a new mode of building; for four piers firmly fixed on the ground, supported the whole structure, having four Chancels of a circular form in its circumference.”<sup>8</sup> This

Church

<sup>1</sup> S. Dunstanus — “in multis loco munificus, quæ tunc in Anglia magni miraculi essent, decusque et ingenium conferentis offerre crebro. Inter quæ Signa sono et mole præstantia; et Organa, &c.” Will. Malmesb. de Pontif. lib.v. Edit. Angl. Sac. vol. ii. pag. 33. — “Dunstanus, cujus industria restituit Ecclesia [Glaston.] — fecit Organa et Signa duo præcipua, et Campanam in refectorio.” Will. Malmesb. de Antiq. Glaston. Eccles. pag. 324. Edit. Galei. — Athelwoldus Abbas Monasterii de Abendon, regnante Edgardo Rege, — “fecit duas Campanas, quas in domo [Dei] posuit, cum aliis duabus, quas B. Dunstanus fecisse perhibetur.” Monast. Angl. vol. i. p. 104. lin. 42.

<sup>2</sup> The *Campanile*, or that particular Tower allotted for the use of Bells, was sometimes a distinct separate building of itself; but more commonly adjoined to the Church, so as to make part of the fabrick, usually at the West end. — Vid. Monast. Angl. vol. i. p. 995. lin. 42.

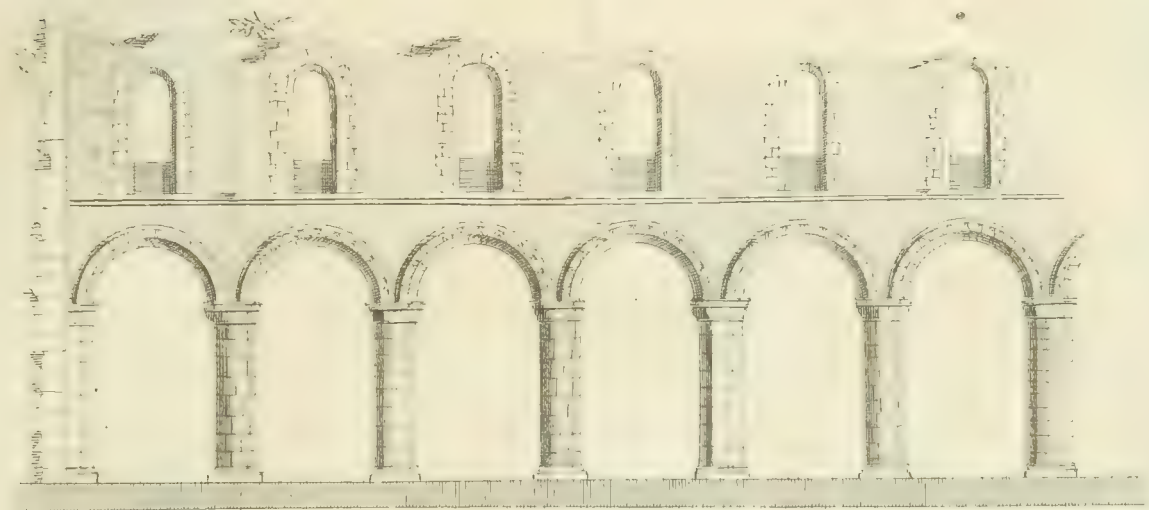
<sup>3</sup> See this explained by Sir *Christopher Wren*, in his Letter to Bishop *Sprat*, in *Widmore's Hist. of Westminster Abby*, p. 53.

<sup>4</sup> “In arte Architectonica summus.” Malmesb. de Reg. Angl. 5 Floren. Wigorn. ad annum 887.

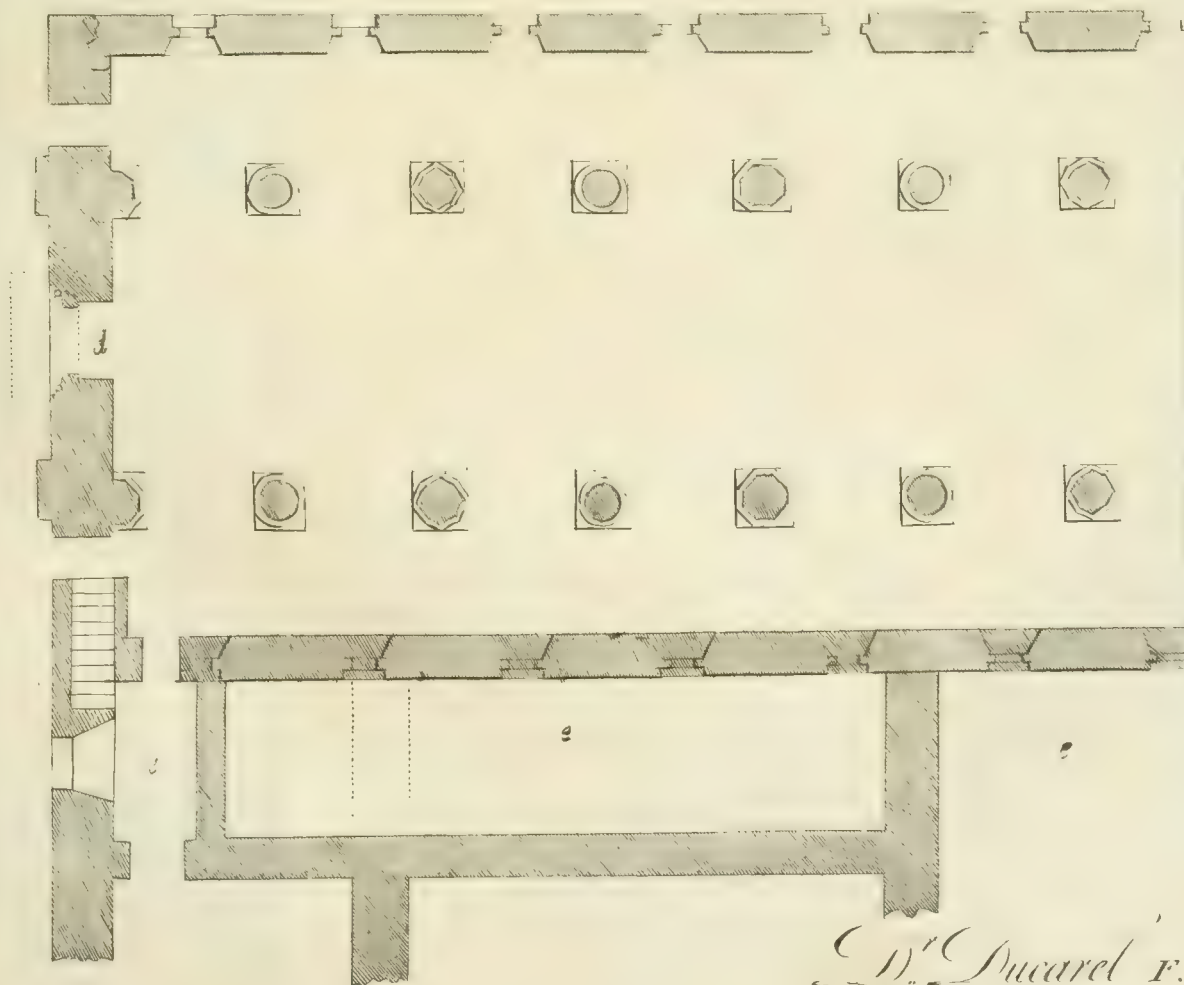
<sup>6</sup> Biographia Britan. under *Ælfred*. 7 Monast. Angl. vol. i. p. 202.

<sup>8</sup> “—fecit Ecclesiam situ quidem pro angustia spatii modicam, sed novo ædificandi modo compactam; quatuor enim postes solo infixi totam suspendunt machinam, quatuor cancellis opere spherico in circuitu ductis.” Ibid. — It is not quite clear from this description, whether it was of Stone or Timber. The word *Pestles*, used for the Pillars or Supporters, does not, I think, determine either way.





*Plan & Elevation of the rem.  
Time of the Heptarchy A*

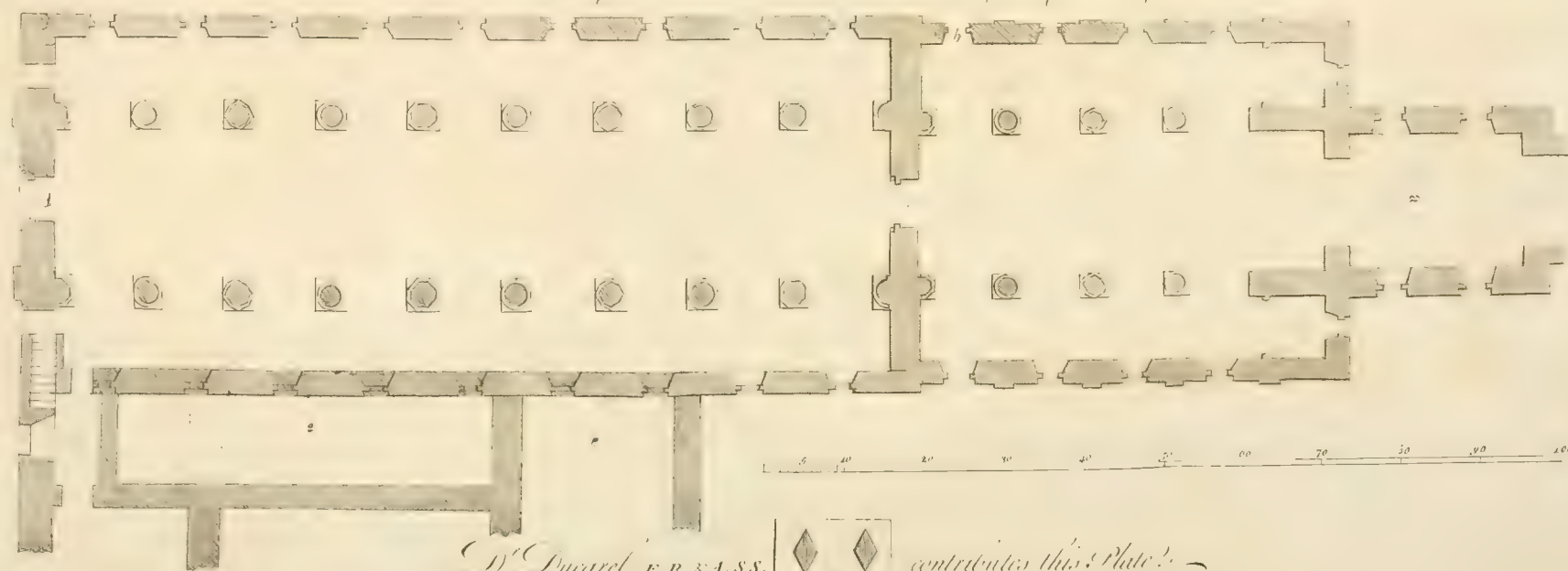


*C. Ducarel R.*





*Plan & Elevation of the remains of the Old Conventual Church at Ely, built in the  
time of the Heptarchy A.D. 673. and repaired in King Edgar's reign A.D. 970.*

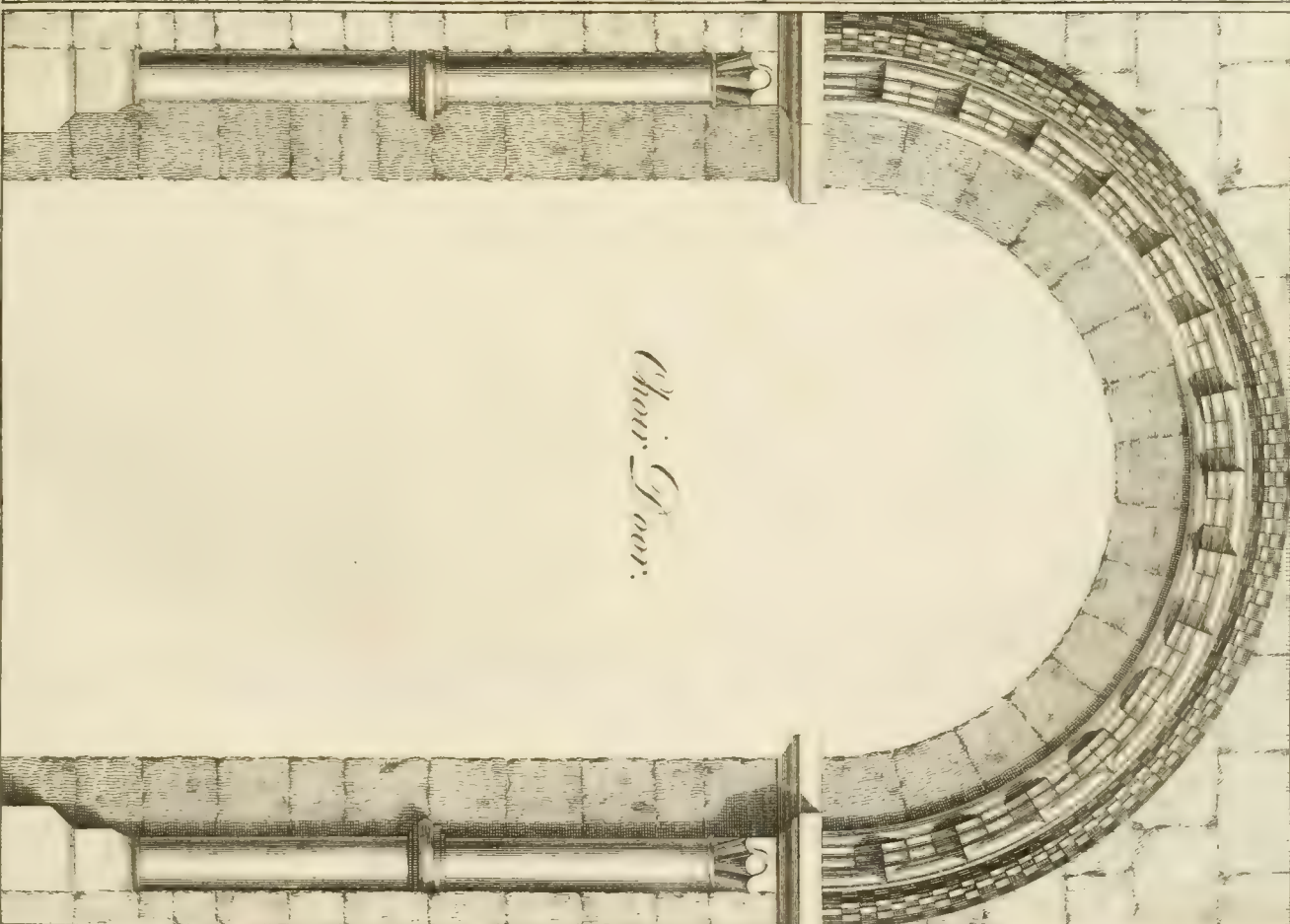
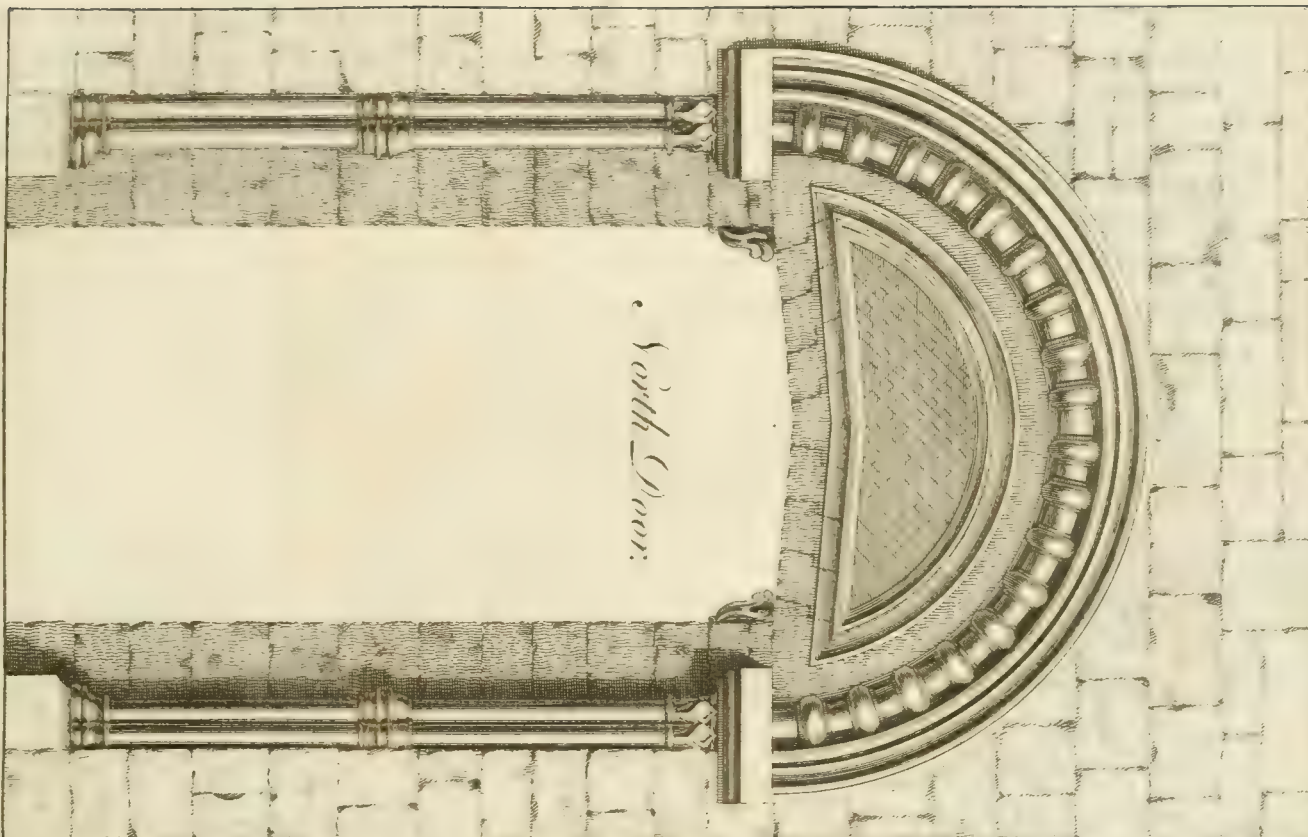


*J. D. Ducarel F.R.S.A.S.S.*



*contributed this Plate.*





The above Wall gate Laid out in his Majesty's  
 Service, this Plate is gratefully inscribed

Reprint of the Original, Commanded by the Earl of  
 Sandwich, 1702.







Church was probably one of his first essays in Architecture; a Model, rather than a finished piece; a specimen of that new form then introduced; in which one may discover the rudiments of a Cross and of a Tower, which we find were afterwards brought to greater perfection, and were the fashionable improvements in the next age; as appears by *Ailwin's Church at Ramsey* above-mentioned.<sup>1</sup>

HAD there been more remains of these ancient Structures now in being, or had our Ecclesiastical Writers been more express, we might at this time have been able to speak with greater certainty concerning them: but Monuments of that kind are very rare,<sup>2</sup> and what descriptions we have, are mostly expressed in such general terms, as give little or no satisfaction in the particulars we want to know. Sir *Christopher Wren*, speaking of the old Abby Church of *Westminster*, built by King *Edgar*, gives his opinion of what kind of Architecture the Saxons used; <sup>3</sup> — ‘This, ’tis probable, was a good strong Building, after the manner of the Age, not much altered from the Roman way. We have some forms of this ancient Saxon way, which was with Piers, or round Pillars (stronger than *Tuscan* or *Doric*) round-headed Arches and Windows. Such was *Winchester* Cathedral of old, and such at this day the Royal Chapel in the White Tower of *London*, the Chapel of *St. Cross's*, the Chapel of *Christ Church* in *Oxford*, formerly an old Monastery, and divers others I need not name, built before the Conquest, and such was *St. Paul's* built in King *Rufus's* time. These ancient structures were without Buttresses, only with thicker Walls; the Windows were very narrow and latticed; <sup>4</sup> for King *Alfred* is praised for inventing Lanthorns to keep in the Lamps in the Churches.” This eminent Architect, I doubt, could not easily recollect such specimens of buildings, as he was really satisfied were built before the Conquest, which his discourse naturally led him to enquire after; for the instances he brings were, undoubtedly erected after that period: — by this however he discovers his own opinion, that the Saxon and Norman Architecture was the same.

## S E C T.

<sup>1</sup> Pag. 28.

<sup>2</sup> The Saxon way of building was, as Sir *Christopher Wren* observes, very strong. There were many Cathedral and Conventual Churches of that kind at the time of the Conquest, which might therefore probably have continued to this day, had they not been pulled down, or suffered to run to ruin by neglect. One principal cause of which, was the removal of the Bishops Sees (some of which had been placed in Villages or small Towns) to Cities and more populous places, by the Council of London, A.D. 1078. This occasioned the old Saxon Cathedrals in the deserted Sees, to be neglected and fall to decay; and in those places where they were suffered to continue, they were soon after demolished, to make room for the more stately Fabricks of the Normans; except in some few instances, where perhaps some parts of the old Saxon fabricks may be found incorporated with the then new works of the Normans. The ruin of the rest is easily accounted for, considering what havock was made of them at their surrender, and the effectual means used by the Visitors appointed by King *Henry VIII.* to destroy them. See *Willis's Hist. of Abbies*, vol. i. p. 180, 181, and vol. ii. Pref. p. 7.

<sup>3</sup> Letter to the Bishop of Rochester, in *Wren's Parentalia*, — and in *Widmore's Hist. of Westm. Abby*, p. 44.

<sup>4</sup> The Windows narrow and latticed.] If the meaning be, that the Windows before *Alfred's* time were not Glazed; — it is apprehended, this is a mistake. See p. 21. note 1.



## S E C T. VI.

*Improvements in Architecture, by the Normans.*

OUR Historians expressly mention a new mode of Architecture, brought into use by the *Normans*, and particularly apply it to the Abby Church at *Westminster*, built by King *Edward* the Confessor, in which he was buried; <sup>1</sup> and afterwards speak of it, as the prevailing mode throughout the Kingdom. <sup>2</sup> — This account has not a little perplexed our modern critical inquirers, who are at a loss to ascertain the real difference, between the *Saxon* and the *Norman* mode of building.

IN order therefore to reconcile these seemingly different accounts, it is proper to observe, that the general plan and disposition of all the principal parts in the latter *Saxon* and earliest *Norman* Churches, was the same; — the chief entrance was at the West end into the Nave; at the upper end of that was a Cross, with the arms of it extending North and South, and the head (in which was the Choir) towards the East, ending usually in a semicircular form; and in the centre of the Cross was a Tower, another was frequently added (and sometimes two, for the sake of ornament or symmetry,) to contain the Bells; the Nave, and often the whole building, was encompassed with inner Porticos; the Pillars were round, square, or angular, and very strong and massive; the Arches, and heads of the Doors and Windows, were all of them circular. In these respects, it may perhaps be difficult to point out any considerable difference between the *Saxon* and *Norman* Architecture. In a popular sense however, I apprehend there will appear a sufficient distinction, to intitle the latter a new mode of building, as our Historians call it, in respect to the former.

THE *Saxons*, sometime before the ruin of their state, as *Malmesbury* observes, <sup>3</sup> had greatly fallen from the virtue of their Ancestors in Religion and Learning; vice and irreligion had gained the ascendant, and their moral character was at the lowest ebb; in their way of living they were luxurious and expensive, though their Houses were at the same time rather low and mean buildings. <sup>4</sup> The *Normans*, on the contrary, were moderate and abstemious, and delicate withal in their diet; fond of stately and sumptuous houses; affected pomp and magnificence in their mien and dress, and likewise in their buildings, publick as well as private. They again introduced civility and

<sup>1</sup> “Sepultus est [Rex Edwardus] Londini in Ecclesia, quam ipse novo compositionis genere construxerat; a qua post multi Ecclesias construentes, exemplum adepti, opus illud expensis æmulabantur sumptuosius.” *Matth. Paris Hist.* pag. 1. — “Ecclesiam ædificationis genere novo fecit.” *W. Malmesb. de Gest. Reg.*

<sup>2</sup> “Videas ubique in villis Ecclesias, in vicis et urbibus Monasteria, novo ædificandi genere consurgere.” *Malmesb. ibid.* p. 102.

<sup>3</sup> *De Regibus Angliæ.* p. 101.

<sup>4</sup> — “parvis et abjectis domibus totos sumptus absumebant: Francis et Normannis absumiles, qui amplis et superbis ædificiis modicas expensas agunt. — Normanni erant tunc et sunt adhuc vestibus ad invidiam culti, cibis citra ullam nimietatem delicati. — Domi ingentia ædificia (ut dixi) moderatos sumptus moliri, paribus invidere superiores prætergredi velle, &c. — Religionis normam in Anglia usquequaque emortuam adventu suo suscitavit; videas ubique in villis Ecclesias, in vicis et urbibus Monasteria novo ædificandi genere consurgere, recenti ritu Patriam florere, ita ut sibi periisse diem quique opulentus exultimet, quem non aliqua præclara magnificentia illustret.” *Ibid.* p. 102.



and the liberal arts, restored Learning, and endeavoured to raise again Religion from the languid state into which it was fallen ; — to this end they repaired and enlarged the Churches and Monasteries, and erected new ones every where, in a more stately and sumptuous manner than had been known in these Kingdoms before. This is what our Historians take notice of, and call it a new manner of Building ; we style it now the *Norman Architecture* : the criterion of which is, I conceive, chiefly it's massiveness, and enlarged dimensions, in which it far exceeded the *Saxon*. Some specimens of this *Norman* kind of building had indeed been produced a little time before the Conquest, owing to our communication with the *Normans*, whose customs and manners King *Edward*, who had been educated in that Court, was fond of introducing ; <sup>1</sup> — such was the Abby Church which he erected at *Westminster*, and “ served afterwards as a pattern to other builders, being rivalled by many, at a great expense ; ” <sup>2</sup> such also was *St. Peter's Church* in *Gloucester*, built about the same time, part of which is still remaining : this mode of building, in the language of professed Artists, we find, is reckoned the same with the *Saxon* : — all the difference, as far as appears to us at this distance of time, was in the magnitude or size of their several buildings. The *Saxon* Churches, were often elegant fabricks and well constructed, as has been observed before ; but generally of a moderate size, frequently begun and finished in five or six years, or less time. The works of the *Normans* were large, sumptuous and magnificent ; of great length and breadth, and carried up to a proportionable height, with two, and sometimes three ranges of pillars, one over another, of different dimensions, connected together by various arches, <sup>3</sup> (all of them circular ; ) forming thereby a lower and upper portico, and over them a gallery ; and on the outside three tires of windows : in the centre was a lofty strong tower, and sometimes one or two more added at the West-end, the front of which generally extended beyond the side-issles of the nave or body of the Church.

THE observation made on rebuilding *St. Paul's* in King *William Rufus's* time, after the fire of *London* in 1086, by *Mauritius* Bishop of that See, viz. “ That the plan was so extensive, and the design so great, that most people who lived at that time censured it as a rash undertaking, and judged that it never would be accomplished ; ” <sup>4</sup> — is in some measure applicable to most of the Churches begun by the *Normans*. — Their plan was indeed great and noble, and they laid out their whole design at first ; scarcely, we may imagine, with a view of ever living to see it compleated in their lifetime : — their way therefore was usually to begin at the East end, or the Choir part ; when that was finished, and covered in, the Church was often consecrated ; and the remainder

<sup>1</sup> “ Rex Edwardus natus in Anglia, sed nutritus in Normannia, et diutissime immoratus, pene in Gallicum transierat, adducens ac attrahens de Normannia plurimos, quos variis dignitatibus promotos in immensum exaltabat. — cœpit ergo tota terra sub Rege, et sub aliis Normannis introductis Anglicos ritus dimittere et Francorum mores in multis imitari.” *Ingulphi Hist.* p. 62. Edit. Gale. <sup>2</sup> “ — a qua post multi Ecclesias construentes, exemplum adepti, opus illud expensis æmulabantur sumptuosis.” *Matth. Paris Hist.* p. 1. <sup>3</sup> “ — Diversis fultum columnis, ac multiplicibus volutum hinc et inde arcibus.” — as *Sulcardus* a Monk of *Westminster* describes the Abby Church there, built by *Edward the Confessor* ; which was of this kind. *Widmore's History of Westminster Abby.* p. 10. <sup>4</sup> “ — Nova fecit [Mauritius] fundamenta tam spaciofa, ut qui ea tempestate vixerunt plerique cœptum hoc ejus tanquam temerarium et audax nimium reprehenderent, nunquam futurum dicentes, ut molis tam ingentis structura aliquando perficeretur.” *Godwin de Præsul. Angl.* p. 175.

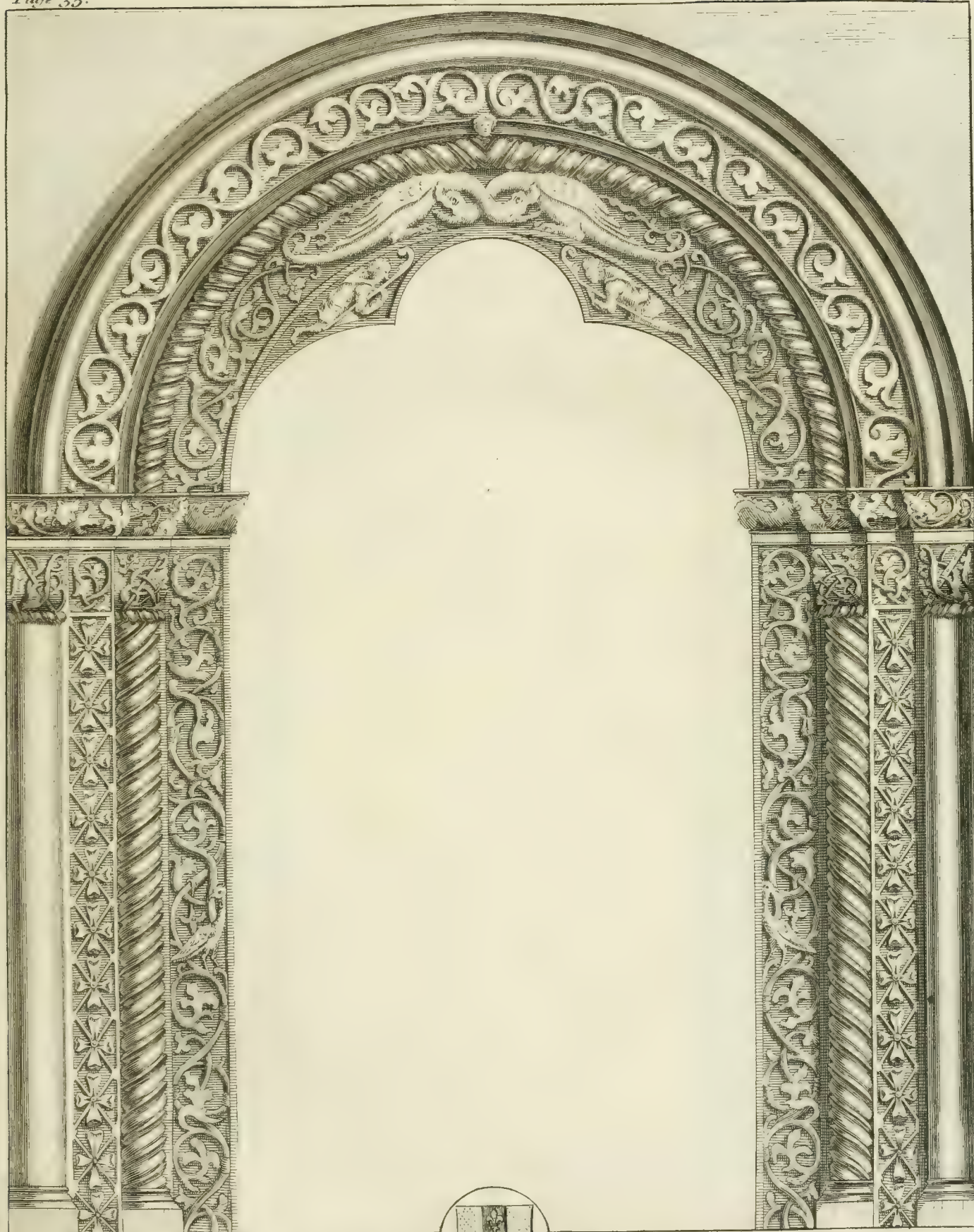


remainder carried on as far as they were able, and then left to their Successors to be completed : and it is very observable, that all our Cathedral, and most of the Abby Churches, besides innumerable Parochial Churches, were either wholly rebuilt or greatly improved within less than a Century after the Conquest, and all of them by *Normans* introduced into this Kingdom ; as will evidently appear on examining the History of their several Foundations.<sup>1</sup> It was the policy of the first *Norman* Kings to remove the *English* or *Saxons* from all places of trust or profit, and admit none but Foreigners : infomuch that *Malmesbury*, who lived in the Reign of *Henry the First*, observes, “ That in his time there was not one *Englishman* possessed of any post of honour or profit under the Government, or of any considerable office in the Church.”<sup>2</sup> The Bishopricks and all the best Ecclesiastical preferments, were filled by those Foreigners, and the Estates of the *Saxon* Nobility were divided among them. Thus being enriched and furnished with the means, it must be owned, they spared neither pains nor cost in erecting Churches, Monasteries, Castles, and other Edifices both for publick and private use, in the most stately and sumptuous manner. And, I think, we may venture to say, that the Circular Arch, Round-headed Doors and Windows, Massive Pillars, with a kind of regular Base and Capital, and thick Walls, without any very prominent Buttresses, were universally used by them to the end of King *Henry the First*’s Reign ; and are the chief Characteristicks of their style of Building : and among other peculiarities that distinguish it, we may observe, that the capitals of their Pillars were generally left plain, without any manner of Sculpture ; though instances occur of foliage and animals on them ; as those on the East-side of the South Transept at *Ely*. — The Body or Trunk of their vast massive Pillars were usually plain Cylinders, or set off only with small Half-columns united with them ; but sometimes to adorn them, they used the *Spiral-groove* winding round them, and the *Net* or *Lozenge-work* overspreading them ; both of which appear at *Durham*, and the first in the Undercroft at *Canterbury*. — As to their Arches, though they were for the most part plain and simple ; yet some of their principal ones, as those over the chief entrance at the West-end, and others most exposed to view, were abundantly charged with Sculpture of a particular kind ; as, the *Cheveron-work* or *Zig-zag moulding*, the most common of any ; and various other kinds rising and falling, jetting out and receding inward alternately, in a waving or undulating manner ; — the *Embattled-Frette*, a kind of ornament formed by a single round Moulding, traversing the face of the Arch, making it’s returns and crossings always at Right-angles, so forming the intermediate spaces into Squares alternately open above and below ; specimens of this kind of ornament appear on the great Arches in the middle of the West-front at *Lincoln*, and within the ruinous part of the building adjoining to the great Western Tower at *Ely* ; — the *Triangular-Frette*, where the same kind of moulding at every re-

turn,

<sup>1</sup> Particular accounts may be found in *Dugdale’s Monasticon*, *Godwin de Præsulibus Angliæ*, *Willis’s Hist. of Abbies*, &c. Thus *Lanfranc*, promoted to the See of *Canterbury* 1070, begun the foundation of a new Church there. *Thomas I*, Archbishop of *York* 1070. — *Walcher* Bishop of *Durham* 1071. — *Walkeline* of *Winchester* 1070. — *Remigius* of *Lincoln* 1076. — all of them Foreigners, did the like in their several Sees ; and so of the rest. <sup>2</sup> ‘ *Anglia facta est exterorum habitatio, et alienigenarum dominatio ; nullus hodie Anglus Dux, vel Pontifex, vel Abbas ; advenæ quique divitias et viscera corrodunt Angliæ ; nec spes ulla est finiendæ miserix.*’ *Malmesb. de Reg. Angl.* p. 93.





To John Drage Esq. of Sobham in the County  
of Cambridge, this Plate, Engraved at his  
Expense, is most gratefully

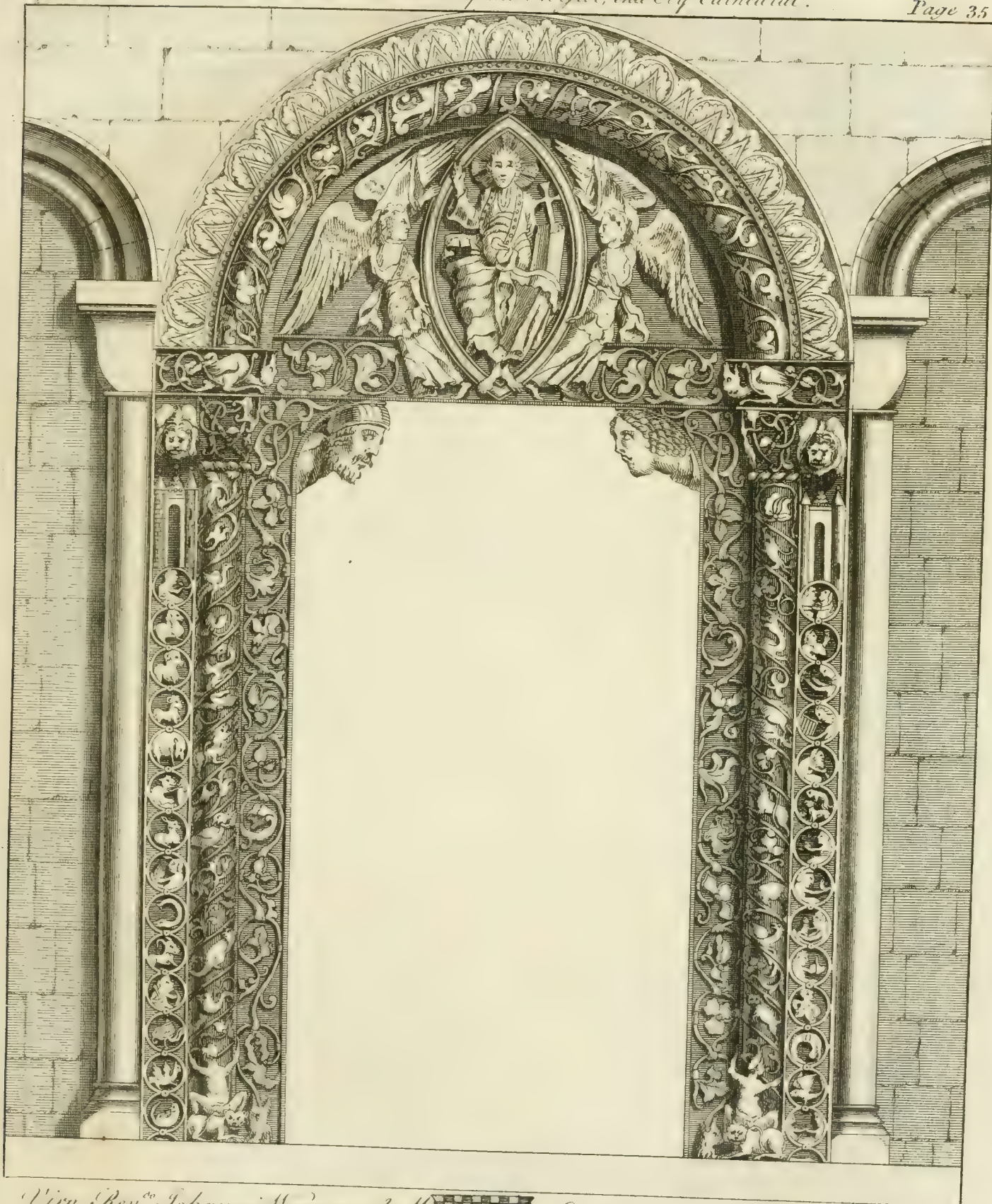


Inscribed, by James Benthall. 1770.









Viro Rev.<sup>o</sup>. Johanni Warren. A. M.  
hanc Portam ejusdem Ecclesie  
incisam grato animo D. D. D.




Ecclesie Cath. Elyen. Canonico  
Austrialem. Sumptibus suis in are  
Jacobus Bentham. 1768.







turn, forms the side of an Equilateral Triangle, and consequently encloses the intermediate spaces in that figure; — the *Nail-head*, resembling the heads of great Nails, driven in at regular distances; as in the Nave of *Old St. Paul's*, and the great Tower at *Hereford*; (all of them found also in more ancient *Saxon* buildings;) — the *Billeted-moulding*, as if a Cylinder should be cut into small pieces of equal length, and these stuck on alternately round the face of the Arches; as in the Choir of *Peterborough*, at *St. Cross*, and round the Windows of the upper Tire on the outside of the Nave at *Ely*: — this latter ornament was often used (as were also some of the others,) as a *Fascia*, *Band*, or *Fillet*, round the outside of their Buildings.—Then to adorn the inside Walls below, they had rows of little Pillars and Arches; and applied them also to decorate large vacant spaces in the Walls without: — and the *Corbel-table*, consisting of a series of small Arches without Pillars, but with heads of Men and Animals, serving instead of Corbels or Brackets to support them, which they placed below the Parapet, projecting over the upper, and sometimes the middle Tire of Windows: — the *Hatched Moulding* used both on the faces of the Arches, or for a *Fascia* on the outside; — as if cut with the point of an Ax at regular distances and so left rough: — and the *Nebule* a projection terminated by an undulating line , as under the upper range of Windows at *Peterborough*. — To these marks that distinguish the *Saxon* or *Norman* style, we may add, that they had no *Tabernacles*, (or *Niches* with Canopies;) or Pinnacles, or Spires; or indeed any Statues to adorn their buildings on the outside, which are the principal grace of what is now called the *Gothic*; unless those small figures we sometimes meet with over their Door-ways, such as is that little figure of Bishop *Herebert Lofing* over the North-transsept door at *Norwich*, seemingly of that time; or another small figure of our Saviour over one of the South-doors at *Ely*, &c. may be called so: but these are rather Mezzo-relievos than Statues; and it is known, that they used Reliefs sometimes with profusion; as in the *Saxon* or *Norman* Gateway at *Bury*, and the two South-doors at *Ely*. [Plates VI, VII.] — Escutcheons of Arms are hardly (if ever) seen in these Fabricks, though frequent enough in after times; — neither was there any tracery in their vaultings. — These few particularities in the *Saxon* and *Norman* style of building, however minute they may be in appearance, yet will be found to have their use, as they contribute to ascertain the age of an Edifice at first sight.<sup>1</sup>

It cannot be expected we should be able to enumerate all the decorations they made use of; for they designed variety in the choice of them: but a judicious Antiquarian who has made the prevailing modes of Architecture in distant times, his study; will be able to form very probable conjectures concerning the age of most of these ancient structures; the alterations that have been made in them, since their first erection, will often discover themselves to his eye. Perhaps the most usual change he will find in them, is in the form of the Windows; for in many of our oldest Churches, I mean such as were built within the first Age after the Conquest, the Windows which were originally Round-headed, have since been altered for others

of

<sup>1</sup> Some curious observations on the difference between the Norman style of building used in the Conqueror's reign, and that in use under Henry II. may be met with in the account given by Gervase a Monk of Canterbury, of the Fire that happened there A.D. 1174, and burnt the Choir, and of the repairing of the same. X. Scriptores, col. 1302. lin. 43, 44, &c.



of a more modern date, with pointed Arches. Instances of this kind are numerous, and may often be discovered, by examining the courses of the Stone-work about them; unless the outward face of the Building was new-cased at the time of their insertion, as it sometimes happened: without attending to this, we shall be at a loss to account for that mixture of round and pointed Arches, we often meet with in the same Building.

THERE is perhaps hardly any one of our Cathedral Churches of this early *Norman* style (I mean with round Arches and large Pillars) remaining entire, though they were all originally so built; but specimens of it may still be seen in most of them. The greatest part of the Cathedrals of *Durham*, *Carlisle*, *Chester*, *Peterborough*, *Norwich*, *Rockester*, *Chichester*, *Oxford*, *Worcester*, *Wells*, and *Hereford*; the Tower and Transept of *Winchester*, the Nave of *Gloucester*, the Nave and Transept of *Ely*, the two Towers of *Exeter*, some remains in the middle of the West-front of *Lincoln*, with the lower parts of the two Towers there; in *Canterbury* great part of the Choir, formerly called *Conrade's* Choir (more ornamented than usual,) the two Towers called *St. Gregory's* and *St. Anselm's*, and the North-west Tower of the same Church; the Collegiate Church of *Southwell*, and part of *St. Bartholomew's* in *Smithfield*, are all of that style; and so was the Nave and Transept of *Old St. Paul's, London*,<sup>1</sup> before the Fire in 1666: *York* and *Lichfield*, have had all their parts so entirely rebuilt at separate times, since the disuse of round Arches, that little or nothing of the old *Norman* work appears in them at this day. The present Cathedral Church of *Salisbury*, is the only one that never had any mixture of this early *Norman* style in its composition: the old Cathedral, begun soon after the Conquest, and finished by *Roger*, that great and powerful Bishop of *Salisbury* under *Henry I.* was at *Old Sarum*, and of the same kind; it stood in the North-west part of the City, and the Foundations are still visible: if one may form a judgment of the whole, by the Ruins that remain; it does not appear indeed to have been so large as some other of those above-mentioned; but it had a Nave and two Porticos or Side-ises, and the East-end of it was Semicircular; its situation on a barren chalky Hill, exposed to the violence of the Winds, and subject to great scarcity of Water, and that within the precincts of the Castle, (whereby frequent disputes and quarrels arose between the Members of the Church and Officers of the Castle,) gave occasion to the Bishop and Clergy in the reign of *Henry III.* to desert it, and remove to a more convenient situation, about a Mile distant towards the South-east; where<sup>2</sup> *Richard Poore*, at that time Bishop, begun the Foundation of the present Church on the fourth of the Calends of *May* 1220. It consists entirely of that style which is now called, (though I think improperly,) *Gothic*; a light, neat, and elegant form of building; in which all the Arches are (not round but) pointed, the Pillars small and slender, and the outward Walls commonly supported with Buttresses.

THE term *Gothic* applied to Architecture, was much used by our Ancestors in the last Century, when they were endeavouring to recover the ancient *Grecian* or *Roman* manner, (I call it indifferently by either of those names, for the *Romans* borrowed it from the *Greeks* :) whether they had then a retrospect to those particular times when the *Goths* ruled in the Empire, or only used it as a term of reproach, to stigmatize the productions

of

<sup>1</sup> A view of the inside by Hollar, is preserved in Dugdale's Hist. of *St. Paul's*.

<sup>2</sup> Price's Observations on the Cath. Church of *Salisbury*, p. 8. — Camden's Britan. col. 107. note y.



of ignorant and barbarous times, is not certain : but I think they meant it of *Roman* Architecture ; not such, certainly, as had been in the Age of *Augustus*, (which they were labouring to restore,) but such as prevailed in more degenerate times, when the Art itself was almost lost, and particularly after the Invasions of the *Goths* ; in which state it continued many Ages after, without much alteration. Of this kind was our *Saxon* and earliest *Norman* manner of building, with circular Arches and strong massive Pillars, but really *Roman* Architecture, and so was called by our *Saxon* Ancestors themselves.<sup>1</sup> Some Writers call all our ancient Architecture without distinction of round and pointed Arches, *Gothic* : though I find of late the fashion is to apply the term solely to the latter ; the reason for which is not very apparent. The word *Gothic* no doubt implies a relation some way or other to the *Goths* ; and if so, then the old *Roman* way of building with round Arches above described, seems to have the clearest title to that appellation ; not that I imagine the *Goths* invented, or brought it with them : but that it had its rise in the *Gothic* age, or about the time the *Goths* invaded *Italy*. The style of building with pointed Arches is modern, and seems not to have been known in the world, till the *Goths* ceased to make a figure in it. Sir *Christopher Wren* thought this should rather be called the *Saracen* way of building :—the first appearance of it here, was indeed in the time of the *Crusades* ; and that might induce him to think the Archetype was brought hither by some who had been engaged in those expeditions, when they returned from the Holy Land : but the observations of several learned Travellers,<sup>2</sup> who have accurately surveyed the Ancient mode of building in those parts of the world, do by no means favour that opinion, or discover the least traces of it. Indeed I have not yet met with any satisfactory account of the origin of pointed Arches, when invented, or where first taken notice of : some have imagined, they might possibly have taken their rise from those Arcades we see in the early *Norman* or *Saxon* buildings on walls, where the wide semi-circular Arches cross and intersect each other, and form thereby at their intersection exactly a narrow and sharp-pointed Arch. In the wall South of the Choir at *St. Cross* is a facing of such wide round interlaced Arches by way of ornament to a flat vacant space : only so much of it as lies between the Legs of the two neighbouring Arches, where they cross each other, is pierced through the Fabric, and forms a little range of sharp-pointed Windows : it is of King *Stephen's* time ; whether they were originally pierced I cannot learn. — But whatever gave occasion to the invention ; there are sufficient proofs they were used here in the Reign of *Henry II.* The West-end of the old *Temple Church* built in that Reign, and dedicated by *Heraclius* Patriarch of the Church of the *Holy Resurrection* in *Jerusalem*, (as appears by the Inscription<sup>3</sup> lately over the Door,) is now remaining ; and has, I think, pointed and round Arches originally inserted ; they are intermixed ; the great Arches are pointed, the Windows above are round ; the West door is a round Arch richly ornamented ; and before it a Portico or Porch of three Arches, supported by two Pillars ; that opposite to the Church-door is round, the other two pointed, but these have been rebuilt. The great Western-tower of *Ely Cathedral*, built in the same Reign by *Geoffrey Rydel* Bishop there,

who

<sup>1</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. v. cap. 21. — and Hist. Abb. Wiremuth. et Gyrw. p. 295. l. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Pocock, Norden, Shaw. <sup>3</sup> Stow's Survey of London, p. 746. Edit. 1754.



who died A. D. 1189. consists of pointed Arches. At *York* under the Choir remains much of the old work, built by Archbishop *Roger* in *Henry II*'s Reign; the Arches are but just pointed, and rise on short round Pillars, whose Capitals are adorned with Animals and Foliage: many other instances of the same Age might be recollected; and possibly some may occur of an earlier date; for this, like most novelties, we may suppose, was introduced by degrees.

IN *Henry the III*'s Reign the circular Arch and massive Column seem wholly to have been laid aside, and the pointed Arch and slender Pillar being substituted in their room, obtained such general approbation throughout the Kingdom, that several parts of those strong and stately buildings, that had been erected in the preceeding Age, were taken down and their dimensions enlarged, in order to make room for this new mode of building. The Cathedral Church of *Salisbury* is wholly of this kind of Architecture: it was begun early in that reign,<sup>1</sup> and finished in the Year 1258. This Church (says a competent Judge<sup>2</sup> of such matters) "may be justly accounted one of the best patterns of Architecture in the Age wherein it was built." To which we may add, that it has this advantage of all others, that the whole Plan was laid out at once, and regularly pursued throughout the whole course of it's building, in the same style, to it's finishing; whence arise that uniformity, symmetry, and regular proportion observable in all the parts of it, not to be found in any other of our Cathedral Churches; which having been all originally built with circular Arches and heavy Pillars, and most of them afterwards renewed, in part or in whole; at different times; and under all the changes and variety of modes that have prevailed, since the first introduction of pointed Arches; now want that regularity and sameness of style, so necessary to constitute an entire and perfect building. In the same reign were considerable additions made to several of our Cathedral and other Churches, especially at their East-end; some of which, as they are still remaining, may serve to illustrate the particular style then in use: such is that elegant structure at the East-end of *Ely* Cathedral,<sup>3</sup> built by *Hugh Norwold*, Bp. of *Ely*,<sup>4</sup> who in the Year 1234, took down the circular East-end of the Church, and laid the Foundation of his new Building, now called the Presbytery, which he finished in 1250. King *Henry* also,<sup>5</sup> in the Year 1245, ordered the East-end, Tower, and Transept of the Abby Church at *Westminster*, built by *Edward the Confessor*, to be taken down, in order to rebuild them at his own expense, in a more elegant form: he did not live, it seems, to compleat his whole design; but the difference of style in that part of the Church, from the other, West-ward of the Cross, which was also rebuilt afterwards, indicates how far the work was carried on in that King's time, or soon after. "The New Work of *St. Paul's*, so called, at the East-end, above the Choir, was begun in the Year 1251.—Also the New Work of *St. Paul's*, to wit, the cross Isles, were begun to be new built in the<sup>6</sup> Year 1256." Besides these, we find there were a great many considerable alterations and additions made to  
several

<sup>1</sup> Godwin de Praeful. Angliæ, pag. 345. <sup>2</sup> Sir Chr. Wren, in Parentalia. <sup>3</sup> The whole of the building called the Presbytery, consists of nine Arches; only the six Eastern-most, with that end, were built by Bishop *Norwold*; the other three adjoining to the Dome were afterwards rebuilt by Bishop *Hotham*, in the Reigns of *Edward II.* and *Edward III.* <sup>4</sup> MS. Bibl. Cotton. Tiberius. B. 2. fol. 246. <sup>5</sup> Matth. Paris Hist. p. 581. 861. <sup>6</sup> Stow's Survey of Lond. vol. i. p. 639.



several other Cathedral and Conventual Churches, and new buildings carrying on, about the same time in different parts of the Kingdom; some of which are particularly taken notice of by our Historians.<sup>1</sup>

DURING the whole Reign of *Henry III.* the fashionable Pillars to our Churches were of *Purbeck* Marble, very slender and round, encompassed with Marble Shafts a little detached, so as to make them appear of a proportionable thickness; these Shafts had each of them a Capital richly adorned with Foliage, which together in a Cluster formed one elegant Capital for the whole Pillar. This form, though graceful to the eye, was attended with an inconvenience, perhaps not apprehended at first; for the Shafts designed chiefly for ornament, consisting of long pieces cut out horizontally from the Quarry, when placed in a Perpendicular situation were apt to split and break; which probably occasioned this manner to be laid aside in the next Century. There was also some variety in the form of the Vaultings in the same Reign: these they generally chose to make of Chalk, for it's lightness; but the Arches and principal Ribs were of Freestone. The vaulting of *Salisbury* Cathedral, one of the earliest, is high pitched, between Arches and Cross-springers only, without any further decorations; but some that were built soon after, are more ornamental, rising from their imposts with more springers, and spreading themselves to the middle of the Vaulting, are enriched at their intersection with carved Orbs, Foliage, and other devices: — as in Bishop *Norwold's* work above mentioned.<sup>2</sup>

As to the Windows of that Age, we find they were long, narrow, sharp-pointed, and usually decorated on the inside and outside with small Marble Shafts: the order and disposition of the Windows, varied in some measure according to the Stories of which the Building consisted: in one of three Stories, the uppermost had commonly three Windows within the compass of every Arch, the centre one being higher than those on each side; the middle Tire or Story had two within the same space: and the lowest only one Window, usually divided by a Pillar or Mullion, and often ornamented on the top with a Trefoil, single Rose, or some such simple decoration; which probably gave the hint for branching out the whole Head into a variety of Tracery and Foliage, when the Windows came afterwards to be enlarged. The use of painted and stained Glass in our Churches, is thought to have begun about this time.<sup>3</sup> This kind of ornament, as it diminished the Light, induced the necessity of making an alteration in the Windows; either by increasing the number, or enlarging their proportions; for though a Gloominess rather than overmuch Light, seems more proper for such Sacred Edifices, and “better calculated for recollecting the thoughts, and fixing pious affections,” as the elegant Writer last cited observes;<sup>4</sup> yet without that alteration, our Churches had been too dark and gloomy; as some of them now, being divested of that ornament, for the same reason, appear over-light.

As for Spires and Pinnacles, with which our oldest Churches are sometimes, and more modern ones are frequently decorated, I think they are not very ancient. The Towers and Turrets of Churches built by the *Normans*, in the first Century after their

<sup>1</sup> *Monast. Angl.* vol. i. p. 273. lin. 44. p. 386. lin. 40. p. 752. lin. 11. et vol. iii. p. 270. — *Godwin de Præful. Angl.* p. 371, 372. 461. 503. 505. 678. 742. <sup>2</sup> Pag. 38. <sup>3</sup> *Ornaments of Churches considered*, p. 94. <sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*



their coming, were covered, as Platforms, with Battlements or plain parapet Walls; some of them indeed built within that period, we now see finished with Pinnacles or Spires; which were additions, since the modern style of pointed Arches prevailed; for before we meet with none. One of the earliest Spires we have any account of, is that of *Old St. Paul's*<sup>1</sup> finished in the year 1222; it was, I think, of Timber, covered with Lead; but not long after, they begun to build them of Stone; and to finish all their Buttresses in the same manner.

ARCHITECTURE under *Edward I.* was so nearly the same as in his Father *Henry III's* time, that it is no easy matter to distinguish it. Improvements no doubt were then made, but it is difficult to define them accurately. The transition from one style to another is usually effected by degrees, and therefore not very remarkable at first; but it becomes so at some distance of time: towards the latter part indeed of his Reign, and in that of *Edward II.* we begin to discover a manifest change of the mode, as well in the Vaulting, and Make of the Columns, as the formation of the Windows. The Vaulting was, I think, more decorated than before; for now the principal Ribs arising from their Impost, being spread over the inner face of the Arch, run into a kind of Tracery; or rather, with Transoms divided the Roof into various angular Compartments, and were usually ornamented in the Angles, with gilded Orbs, carved Heads or Figures, and other Embossed work. The Columns retained something of their general form already described, that is, as an assemblage of small Pillars or Shafts; but these decorations were now not detached or separate from the body of the Column, but made part of it, and being closely united and wrought up together, formed one entire, firm, slender, and elegant Column. The Windows were now greatly enlarged, and divided into several lights by stone Mullions, running into various ramifications above, and dividing the Head into numerous compartments of different forms, as Leaves, open Flowers, and other fanciful shapes: and more particularly the great Eastern and Western Windows, (which became fashionable about this time,) took up nearly the whole breadth of the Nave, and were carried up almost as high as the Vaulting; and being set off with painted and stained Glass of most lively colours, with Portraits of Kings, Saints, Martyrs, and Confessors, and other Historical representations, made a most splendid and glorious Appearance.

THE three first Arches of the Presbytery, adjoining to the Dome and Lantern of the Cathedral Church of *Ely*, begun the latter part of *Edward II's* reign, A. D. 1322, exhibit elegant specimens of these fashionable Pillars, Vaulting, and Windows. *St. Mary's* Chapel (now *Trinity* Parish-Church,) at *Ely* built about the same time, is constructed on a different plan; but the Vaulting and Windows are in the same style. The plan of this Chapel, generally accounted one of the most perfect structures of that Age, is an Oblong Square; it has no Pillars nor Side-Isles, but is supported by strong spiring Buttresses, and was decorated on the outside with Statues over the East and West Windows; and within-side also with Statues, and a great variety of other Sculpture well executed.<sup>2</sup>

THE

<sup>1</sup> Stow's Survey of London, p. 639. Edit. 1754. <sup>2</sup> The fashion of adorning the West-end of our Churches with rows of Statues in Tabernacles or Niches, with Canopies over them, obtained very soon after the introduction of pointed Arches; as may be seen at Peterborough and Salisbury; and in later times we find them in a more improved taste, as at Lichfield and Wells.



THE same style and manner of building prevailed all the Reign of *Edward III.*, and with regard to the principal parts and members, continued in use to the Reign of *Henry VII.*, and the greater part of *Henry VIII.*; only towards the latter part of that period, the Windows were less pointed and more open; a better taste for Statuary began to appear; and indeed a greater care seems to have been bestowed on all the ornamental parts, to give them a lighter and higher finishing; particularly the Ribs of the Vaulting, which had been large, and seemingly formed for strength and support, became at length divided into such an abundance of parts, issuing from their imposts as from a centre, and spreading themselves over the Vaulting, where they were intermixed with such delicate Sculpture, as gave the whole Vault the appearance of embroidery, enriched with clusters of pendent ornaments, resembling the works Nature sometimes forms in Caves and Grottos hanging down from their Roofs. — The most striking instance of this kind is, without exception, the Vaulting of that sumptuous Chapel of King *Henry VII.*, at *Westminster*.

To what height of perfection modern Architecture, (I mean that with pointed Arches, it's chief characteristick,) was carried on in this Kingdom, appears by that one complete specimen of it, the Chapel founded by King *Henry VI.*, in his College at *Cambridge*, and finished by <sup>1</sup> King *Henry VIII.* — The decorations, harmony and proportions of the several parts of this magnificent Fabrick, it's fine painted Windows, and richly ornamented spreading Roof, it's gloom, and perspective all concur in affecting the imagination with pleasure and delight, at the same time that they inspire awe and devotion. It is undoubtedly one of the most complete, elegant, and magnificent Structures in the Kingdom. And if besides these larger works, we take into our view those specimens of exquisite workmanship we meet with in the smaller kinds of Oratories, Chapels,<sup>2</sup> and Monumental Edifices, produced so late as the Reign of *Henry VIII.*, some of which are still in being, or at least so much of them as to give us an idea of their former grace and beauty; one can hardly help concluding, that Architecture arrived at its highest point of glory in this Kingdom, but just before it's final period.

AT

<sup>1</sup> It is formed on the same plan as *St. Mary's Chapel* at *Ely*, and indeed the design is said to have been thence taken. — King *Henry VI.*, laid the foundations of the whole, about the Year 1441, which were raised 5 or 6 feet above ground in the West-end, but much higher towards the East; for that end was covered in many years before the West-end was finished. How far the work proceeded in the Founder's time, cannot be said with certainty: — the troubles he met with in the latter part of his Reign, hindered the prosecution of it. — *Richard III.*, a few months before he was slain, had signed a Warrant for 300*l.*, out of the Temporalities of the Bishoprick of *Exeter*, then in his hands, towards carrying on the building; [MS *Harleian*. N<sup>o</sup>. 433. fol. 209. b.] — but, I believe, nothing more was done by him. *Henry VII.* undertook the work, and carried up the remainder to the Battlements and completed the Timber roof: After his death, King *Henry VIII.* finished the whole Fabrick, as well the Towers and Finials, as the vaulted Roof within, and fitted up the Choir in the manner we now see it. — One contract for building the Stone Vault, and 3 of the Towers, and 21 Fynyalls [the upper finishing of the Buttresses,] dated the 4th of *Henry VIII.* A.D. 1512; and another for Vaulting the 2 Porches and 16 Chapels about the building dated the following Year, are still in the Archives of the College.

<sup>2</sup> *Bishop West's Chapel* at the East-end of the South Isle of *Ely Cathedral*, built in the Reign of *Henry VIII.*, affords an elegant specimen of the most delicate Sculpture, and such variety of Tracery, beautiful Colouring, and Gilding, as will not easily be met with in any work produced before that Reign.



AT that time no Country was better furnished and adorned with religious Edifices, in all the variety of modes that had prevailed for many Centuries past, than our own. The Cathedral Churches in particular were all majestick and stately Structures. Next to them, the Monasteries, which had been erected in all parts of the Kingdom, might justly claim the preeminence; they were for the generality of them fine buildings; and the Churches and Chapels belonging to some of them, equalled the Cathedrals in grandeur and magnificence, and many others were admired for their richness and elegance; and whilst they stood, were, without doubt, the chief ornament to the several Counties in which they were placed.

THE state of these Religious Houses, on occasion of the reformation in Religion then carrying on, became the object of publick deliberation; but however necessary and expedient the total suppression of them might be judged at that time; yet certainly the means that were made use of to suppress them, were not altogether the most justifiable; and the manner of disposing of them and their great revenues, have been found in some respects detrimental to the true interests of Religion. For had the Churches belonging to them been spared, and made Parochial, in those places where they were much wanted; and had the Lands and impropriated Tithes, which the several Religious Orders had unjustly taken from the secular Clergy, and kept possession of by Papal authority, been reserved out of the general sale of their revenues, and restored to their proper use, the maintenance of the Clergy, to whom of right they belonged; we at this time should have had less cause to regret, the general ruin of all those Religious Houses that ensued, and the present scanty Provision that remains to the Clergy in some of the largest Cures in the Kingdom.

THE havock and destruction of those sumptuous Edifices that soon followed their surrender, gave a most fatal turn to the spirit of building and adorning of Churches; Architecture in general was thereby discouraged, and that mode of it in particular which was then in a very flourishing state, and had continued so for more than three Centuries, sunk under the weight, and was buried in the ruins of those numerous Structures which fell at that time.

UNHAPPILY the Orders and Injunctions, given to the several Commissioners under King *Henry VIII*, and in the following Reign during the minority of *Edward VI*, and likewise in Queen *Elizabeth's* time, for removing and taking away all Shrines and superstitious Relicks, and seizing all superfluous Jewels and Plate, were often misapplied, carried to excess, and executed in such a manner, as to have, at least in some instances, the appearance of sacrilegious avarice, rather than of true zeal for the glory of God, and the advancement of Religion.

BE that as it may; certain it is, that at this time, when most of the Churches belonging to the Religious Orders were utterly ruined and destroyed, our Cathedral and Parochial Churches and Chapels suffered greatly; for they were divested and spoiled, not only of their Images and superstitious Relicks, but of their necessary and most unexceptionable ornaments: and afterwards, by the outrages and violence committed on them, in the last Century, during the unhappy times of confusion in the Great Rebellion, they were reduced to a still more deplorable state and condition, and left  
naked



naked and destitute of all manner of just elegance, and of every mark and character of external decency.

It must be owned, that in several intermediate periods, a zeal for the honour of God and his holy Religion, has not been wanting to heal these wounds, to repair and fitly readorn these sacred Structures; but it has not been attended with the success, that all wise and good Men must wish for and desire. Many of our Parochial Churches still carry the marks of violence committed in those days; others through inattention and neglect, (besides the defects they are unavoidably subject to by Age,) are become ruinous and hastening to utter decay, unless timely supported: inasmuch that very few of them, excepting those in large and populous Cities and Towns, the number of which is small in comparison of the rest, can justly be considered as in a proper state of repair, decent, and becoming structures consecrated to the publick service of God. The Chapels indeed belonging to the several Colleges in the two Universities, (very few need to be excepted,) claim our particular notice, for the care and expence we find bestowed on them, the decent order in which they are kept, and the justness and elegance of their ornaments. And our Cathedral Churches, those Monuments of the pious zeal and magnificence of our Forefathers, we doubt not will soon appear again in a state becoming their dignity. The care and attention that is paid them by the present set of Governors in their respective Churches,<sup>1</sup> deserves the highest Encomiums; and if we can make a proper and just estimate, of what may reasonably be expected will be done, from what has already been done of late, and is still doing, for the furtherance of that desirable Work; there is the fairest prospect, and the most ample ground of confidence, that the present Age will stand distinguished by Posterity, for repairing and adorning those venerable Structures, and transmitting them with advantage to the most distant Times.

I cannot conclude these cursory Remarks more properly than in the words of the elegant Author of *Ornaments of Churches considered*.<sup>2</sup> “After the establishment of Christianity, the Constitutions Ecclesiastical and Civil concurred with the spirit of Piety which then prevailed, in providing Structures for Religious Worship. In subsequent ages, this spirit still increased and occasioned an emulation in raising religious Edifices

<sup>1</sup> To instance the particular Cathedral Churches, that have been repaired and beautified within the last 30 or 40 years, and the several designs formed, to bring them to a still more perfect state; — would carry me beyond my present purpose. It may be sufficient only to intimate what has been done of late at York, Lincoln, Peterborough, Ely, Norwich, Chichester, Salisbury, &c. But as that particular scheme, for raising a sufficient fund for these purposes, happily fixed on by the Members of the Church of Lincoln, provides for the future, as well as the present exigences of the Church, does honour to those who were the promoters of it, and may probably in time to come be adopted by most other Cathedral and Collegiate Bodies; I cannot here with any propriety omit taking notice that about 15 or 16 years since, the Right Reverend Dr. John Thomas then Bishop of Lincoln, (now of Salisbury,) taking into consideration, the ruinous state of that Cathedral, and the small Fund allotted for the Repairs, held a general Chapter; wherein it was unanimously agreed, that, for the time to come, *Ten per Cent.* of all Pines, as well of the Bishop as Dean, Dean and Chapter, and all the Prebendaries, should be deposited with the Clerk of the Works, towards repairing and beautifying the said Cathedral: — which has accordingly been paid ever since; and care taken not only of carrying on the necessary repairs in the most durable and substantial manner; but due regard has likewise been paid to the propriety of the ornamental parts restored, and their conformity with the style of building they were intended to adorn.

<sup>2</sup> Pag. 137.



Edifices wherever it was necessary, or in adorning those which were already raised. — The fruits of this ardour we now reap. — Since then the pious Munificence of our Ancestors has raised these sacred Edifices appropriated to Religious uses, we are surely under the strongest obligations to repair, as much as possible, the injuries of time, and preserve them by every precaution from total ruin and decay. Where the particular Funds appropriated to this purpose are insufficient, it becomes necessary to apply to the Affluent, who cannot surely refuse to prevent by their liberal Contributions the severe reproach of neglecting those Structures, which in all Ages have been held Sacred.

HORACE tells the *Roman* people,

*Dii multa neglecti dederunt  
Hesperiae mala luētiosa :*

and assures them, their Misfortunes will not end, till they repair the Temples of their Gods :

*Delicta majorum immeritus lues,  
Romane, donec Templā refeceris,  
Ædesque labentes Deorum, et  
Fæda nigro simulacra fumo.*

This may safely be applied to the Christian world ; since the Fabricks appropriated to the purposes of Religion can never be entirely neglected, till a total disregard to Religion first prevails, and men have lost a sense of every thing that is virtuous and decent : Whenever this is the melancholy condition of a Nation, it cannot hope for, because it does not deserve the protection of Heaven ; and it will be difficult to conceive a general Reformation can take place, till the Temples of the Deity are restored to their proper Dignity, and the Publick Worship of God is conducted in the Beauty of Holiness."









P. Lamborn sculp.

Rev<sup>do</sup> admodum in Christo Patri ac D<sup>no</sup>  
hanc S<sup>ta</sup> Etheldreda Effigiem in vitro  
aere in sculptam. humillime et grato



D<sup>no</sup> Matthia Mawson Eliensi Episcopo  
olim depictam. & jam Sumptibus suis in  
animo D<sup>ni</sup> D. Jacobus Bentham 1762.



THE  
HISTORY and ANTIQUITIES  
OF THE  
Conventual and Cathedral Church of ELY.

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*The Life of St. ETHELDREDA, Foundress of the Church,  
and first ABBESS of the Monastery of ELY.*

**E**THELDREDA, a Princess of distinguished piety in the seventh Century, Daughter of *Anna* King of the *East-Angles* and *Herefwitha* his Queen,<sup>1</sup> was born about the year 630, at <sup>2</sup>*Ixning*, now a small village in the most Western parts of *Suffolk* bordering upon *Cambridgeshire*, formerly a Town of some note, being the birth-place of that Princess, and probably one of the seats of *Anna* before he was King. She had her education<sup>3</sup> at home, under the care and inspection of her illustrious Parents, from whom she received the first impressions of religion and virtue. In her childhood, the mildness of her temper, and innocence of behaviour, joined with the beauty of her person, rendered her the delight of all that were about her; but that which was most observable in her constitution at that time of life, was a serious turn of mind, and a bent to religious duties. It was very early that she devoted herself to the service of God, and had formed in her mind a design<sup>4</sup> of persevering in a virgin state during her life; a species of piety in that age held in high esteem,<sup>5</sup> and requisite to Christian perfection, and which this Princess was generally thought to have carried to a pitch of heroism.

THE amiableness of her person, heightened by those excellent endowments of mind she was possessed of, in a Court where the most exalted piety and the strictest virtue were considered as the highest and noblest accomplishments, could not fail of exciting the admiration of many, and made her name celebrated in the other *Saxon* Courts. There were several persons of the highest rank who became suitors for her in marriage; but as the Princess had already formed in her mind a different scheme of life, and was bent on a religious retirement from the world, she declined every offer that could be made of that kind. Many difficulties still lay in her way that thwarted her inclinations, and seemed to require an alteration of her purpose; for *Tonbert* a principal Nobleman among the *East-Angles*, whom *Bede*<sup>6</sup> calls Prince of the

<sup>1</sup> See p. 15. <sup>2</sup> MS Lib. Elien. lib. i. cap. 3. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. <sup>5</sup> Vid. Aldhelmi Librum de laude Virginitatis. — Et Hymnum de laude hujus eximiae Virginis Etheldredæ, in Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 20. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. lib. iv. cap. 19.



the *South-Girvii*, then in high favour with the King her Father, asked her of him in marriage, and obtained his consent: so that, with much reluctance on her part, she was at length prevailed on by the authority of her Parents, to give up her will, and was accordingly married to that Prince in the <sup>1</sup> year 652; and by this marriage had the *Isle of Ely* settled on her in Dower. <sup>2</sup>

*Etheldreda* who was now engaged in the bonds of marriage, did not however despair of accomplishing her design; but made use of all the arguments she was mistress of, to persuade her Husband, who is said to have been a person of great virtue and piety, to acquiesce in her opinion; and by prayers and entreaties gained his permission, that she might enjoy her own way, and at length prevailed on him to follow her example, in a total and voluntary abstinence from the nuptial-bed. In this manner they lived together by mutual consent about three years; and after that *Tonbert* died; and by his death the Princess *Etheldreda* came into full possession of the *Isle of Ely*, according to the settlement made before her marriage with that Prince.

As the temporal jurisdiction within the *Isle of Ely*, which the Bishop enjoys at this day, owes its original to the state of it at that time, is indeed partly the same that *Tonbert* was invested with, which after his decease descended to the Princess *Etheldreda*, and she annexed to her Monastery; — it will be necessary for the clearer explaining this matter, to consider the form of government established by the *Saxons*, as far as relates to our present purpose.

DURING the time that the *Saxons* governed here, both under the Heptarchy, and also after the Kingdom was united under one *Saxon* Monarch; it was divided into many Provinces, Territories, or Districts, in the manner of our present Counties, as might best answer the ends of government. The number of these small Territories or Districts into which *England* was divided in the earliest times of the *Saxons* is uncertain; probably they underwent frequent alterations, as time and occasion required: the best account of them I have met with, is in <sup>3</sup>*Camden* and *Spelman*, who cite a very old Manuscript, containing Thirty four of these Divisions, reckoned up only on this side the *Humber*, with their ancient names, and their extent, estimated by the number of Hides of Land each of them contained; which may serve as a Specimen of the rest. It appears that some of these Territories or Districts were both feudal and hereditary; which probably depended on the original grant of the King; and they who had the immediate Government of them, were called <sup>4</sup>*Ealdbopmen*, a name of great dignity and authority in those times; their style and office is expressed in the most ancient Latin Histories, wrote in the *Saxon* Ages, by *Principes* and *Duces*, under which titles they frequently occur in subscriptions to old Charters; but in later times, after the *Danes* had possession of the Kingdom, they were called *Eoples*, and in Latin *Cemites* and *Consules*. Not that this is to be so strictly understood, as if there was always a distinct *Ealdbopmon* to each of those Districts; for sometimes one of them had the Government of two, three, or more of those Territories; and at other times they were held in the King's hands, and he appointed a temporary Governor immediately

<sup>1</sup> ‘—Deponsatur itaque biennio ante interfectionem Patris sui.’ MS. Lib. Elien. lib. i. cap. iv.

<sup>2</sup> ‘Insulam Elge ab eodem sponso ejus accepit in dotem.’ Ibid. <sup>3</sup> *Camden's Britannia*, col. clxvii.—*Spelman's Gloss.* sub voce *Hida*. <sup>4</sup> *Selden's Titles of Honour*, part ii. chap. 5. sect. 2.



diately under him, who had the administration of Government, and accounted for the profits of his District into the King's Treasury, and was called *Scype-gepepa*,<sup>1</sup> signifying *Custos* or *Præpositus*, a Keeper or Provost of the Shire. But the Ealdormen were the principal Nobility of those times, and had place together with the Bishops of the Church, in the great Councils of the Kingdom, in which they advised in matters of State, and consented to the making new Laws, and in their collective capacity, were (like the Lords of Parliament at this day,) then the Supreme Court of Judicature among the *Saxons*. Many of these Ealdormen were themselves possessed of large Territories, from which they derived their Titles, and received the Profits arising from their Government, which were very considerable, to their own use: in other cases, they had a certain part, most commonly a Third, sometimes a Fourth part of them, according to the Grant made by the King. Their power and authority within their several Districts, resembled in many respects that of Count-Palatines of old,<sup>2</sup> who were Governors of their Palatinates by Hereditary right; and had ordinarily, under the King, supreme jurisdiction in civil and criminal Causes, according to the Laws then in being; and held their Courts usually twice in the Year, for the execution of the Laws, and at other times as occasion required.

OF this kind of Provinces there were two in the Kingdom of the *East-Angles*, under the name of *Girwa*, distinguished by their situation, *Suth-Girwa* and *North-Girwa*; what is now the *Isle of Ely*, was anciently called *Suth-Girwa*, by which name it occurs in the Manuscript before cited; it was also called *Elg* in the *Saxon* Tongue, and *Elge*, as in the *Latin* of *Bede*; whose description of it, is as follows, "*Elge* is situate in the Province [or Kingdom] of the *East-Angles*, being a District of about 600 Families, in the form of an Island, surrounded either with Fens, or Waters; whence, and from the abundance of Eels that are taken in the said Fens, it had its name."<sup>3</sup> In the *Saxon* translation by King *Alfred*, printed at the end of *Bede*, 600 Families, is rendered *ryx hund hida*, 600 Hides of Land, which answers exactly to the above account given of *Suth-Girwa*, there also said to contain 600 Hides. — Of this Country *Tonbert* was Ealdorman; *Bede* calls him *Princeps Australium Girviorum*, which in the same *Saxon* Version is rendered *ryþ Eýppa Ealdorman*, i. e. Ealdorman of *South-Girwa*: and that he was himself the sole Proprietor, with the power of disposing of it, appears by his making it a Marriage-Settlement; by virtue of which it descended to the Princess *Etbeldreda*; who accordingly came into full possession of it on the decease of her Husband *Tonbert*, A.D. 655. and received it as her proper Estate, and thereby became invested with the Government annexed in her own right.

As to the exercise of that power and jurisdiction within the *Isle of Ely*, as a Principality, after she came into possession, it was committed to *Ovin*, a person of eminence in her Court. This we are informed of by *Bede*, who in his account of the death of *Cædadda* Bishop of *Lichfield*,<sup>4</sup> casually mentions this great Officer under the

Prin-  
<sup>1</sup> Hence the title of *Sheriff*, still in use. <sup>2</sup> Vide *Spelmani Glossarium*, de *Comite Palatino*, sub voce *Comites*. <sup>3</sup> 'Est autem Elge in provincia Orientalium Anglorum regio familiarum circiter sexcentarum, in similitudinem insulæ, vel paludibus circumdata, vel aquis; unde, et a copia anguillarum, quæ in hisdem paludibus capiuntur, nomen accepit.' *Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 19.* <sup>4</sup> *Ibid. lib. iv. cap. 3.*



Princess *Etheldreda*, by the Title of *Primus Ministrorum et Princeps Domus ejus*, “ Her chief Minister and Governor of her House,” or as it is expressed in the *Saxon Translation*,—*hiſe ȝeſeprceper oſen Ealdorman*, “ the upper Ealdorman of her Household.” — The same *Ovin* is also mentioned by the *Ely* Historian,<sup>1</sup> and called, *Vir Magnus et præcipuæ auctoritatis*, and again, *Custos et Provisor suorum*; and is likewise recorded in the *Benedictine Martyrology*,<sup>2</sup> by the title of “ *Major-familias S. Ædiltbri-dis*, [*Etheldredæ*.]” Whoever considers the import of these several Titles of Office attributed to this *Ovin*, and at the same time observes, how they were applied formerly to the greatest Officers in the Courts of Sovereign Princes,<sup>3</sup> will not be at a loss to understand the nature of his office, but will readily conclude, that *Ovin* had the Administration of the *Isle of Ely*, as her Deputy or Lieutenant, in the Exercise of that Jurisdiction that belonged to her there; in the same or like manner as others, who were appointed by the Ealdormen, holding such Territories in their own right, to act under them, in their name and stead.

THE Princess *Etheldreda* being now at liberty to indulge her natural disposition to solitude and devotion, retired soon after the death of the Prince to her *Isle of Ely*; where she was attended only by a few particular friends, that she had made choice of on account of their religious qualifications. When she thus withdrew from the world, it was her real intention to return no more into it; but, whilst her temporal affairs were carried on by her chief Minister *Ovin*, to whom she had committed the administration of them, to give herself up wholly to the exercise of Devotion and all other religious duties. The place she had chosen seemed very proper for her purpose; for as an Island it was separated, as it were, from the rest of the world; and the deepness of the waters and extensiveness of the fens, which encompassed it, rendered it very difficult of access; so that nature seemed to have formed it for solitude and contemplation.

AFTER she had lived some time in this reclusive state, Prince *Egfrid* son of *Oswy* King of *Northumberland* and Monarch of the *English* Nation, hearing of her extraordinary virtues and piety, desired to obtain her in marriage: but he soon found that worldly riches and honours had little or no effect, to induce her to change her condition, and therefore had recourse to her Uncle *Ethelwold* then King of *East-Anglia*, and to others who might be thought to have the greatest influence over her, to persuade her to accept his offer. The Kingdom of *East-Anglia* was then in an unsettled state, from which it had not quite recovered since the death of her Father *Anna*: *Ethelwold* therefore judging that the offer of an alliance with so great a Prince was not to be neglected, and that it would prove highly beneficial to his Kingdom, most earnestly persuaded her to accept the Prince's offer; and at his solicitation she at length gave her consent; and was accordingly conducted to *York*, attended by *Ovin* her Prime Minister and Major of her Household, with many other of the *East-Anglian* Nobility of both Sexes, and there<sup>4</sup> married to Prince *Egfrid* with great pomp and solemnity.\*

<sup>1</sup> MS. Lib. Elien. lib. i. cap. 8.    <sup>2</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. 4. cap. 3. not. 24.    <sup>3</sup> Vid. Spelmani Gloss. sub voc. *Major-Domus*, — et *Dapifer*.    <sup>4</sup> A. D. 660. Floren. Wigorn. — ‘ Anno post interitum Patris sui sexto, iterum datur in conjugium viro alteri, Regi videlicet Egfrido, filio Oíwi Regis Northan-himbrorum.’ Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 8.    \* Plate 9. N<sup>o</sup>. 1.



1.



Nuptiæ Regis Egfridi & Sanctæ Etheldredæ.

2.



Sancta Etheldreda Deo sacrata.

To Sir Thomas Gooch of Benacre in the County of Suffolk Bart. this Plate engraved at his expence is most gratefully inscribed by James Bentham.









*Egfrid* was very young at the time of his marriage; hardly more than fifteen or sixteen years of age;<sup>1</sup> and though the age of *Etheldreda* at that time is not precisely known; yet as she had been married before, and had lived a widow four or five years, there might be a considerable difference in their ages. He appears however to have been very solicitous for the match; and it is likely had made some concessions beforehand, which he might find reason to repent of afterwards; at least, by their conduct after marriage, it seems probable that some private agreement had passed between them, which the world is not made acquainted with: for it was a constant tradition in that age, and confirmed by several Historians<sup>2</sup> who wrote in or near those times, that the Princess *Etheldreda* after this marriage lived a pure Virgin in the *Northumbrian* Court about twelve years.

THIS is particularly asserted by *Bede*; whose testimony in this case I should the more rely on, as he had it from one who lived the whole time in that Court, and was well acquainted with all the transactions of it; his account of it is this: “King *Egfrid* took to wife *Ethelthrida* [*Etheldreda*] Daughter of *Anna* King of the *East-Angles* a religious Prince and in all respects illustrious; she had before been married to *Tondbert* Prince of the *South-Girvi*, after whose death, she was given in marriage to the aforesaid King; and though she continued his Consort twelve years, yet she remained glorious in the perpetual integrity of Virginity; as Bishop *Wilfrid* of blessed memory assured me, when upon occasion of some persons making a doubt of so unusual a thing, I asked him concerning the truth of that report; and he professed himself a most certain witness of it; adding moreover, that King *Egfrid* (knowing that he had the greatest influence over the Queen, as she respected no one more than him,) had sometimes offered him great rewards in lands and money, if he could persuade the Queen to change her mind.”<sup>3</sup> There is indeed some reason to believe that the Bishop, instead of persuading the Queen to conform to the King’s desires, rather encouraged her in those wrong notions of religious Duties she had formerly imbibed, and first suggested to her the thoughts of retiring into a Monastery: and so the Author of her Life seems to acknowledge:<sup>4</sup> However she was not to be moved by any means to alter her purpose.

IN the year 670, King *Oswy* died;<sup>5</sup> and *Egfrid* his Son, who had been his coadjutor in the latter part of his reign, succeeded him both in the kingdom of *Northumberland*, and the Monarchy of the *English* Nation: in consequence of which *Etheldreda* was raised to the highest degree of worldly honour, being now Queen to the greatest of the *Saxon* Kings. Her exalted station made no change in her estimation of secular honours,

<sup>1</sup> *Egfrid* succeeded to the Kingdom of Northumberland, A.D. 670. [*Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 5.*]—and was slain in battle against the Picts, A.D. 685. in the 40th year of his age, and the 15th of his reign. [*ibid. cap. 26.*] <sup>2</sup> *Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 19.*—*Eddii Vit. S. Wilfridi Episcopi Ebor. cap. 19.*—*Alcuini Poem. de Pontif. et Sanctis Eccles. Ebor. lin. 751.* <sup>3</sup> *Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 19.* <sup>4</sup> “*Wilfridus etenim voci virginis fautor existens, vigilantis animi sagacitate procurabat, ne qua femineæ mentis inconstantia ab intentione virgo mutaret. — Egitque vir beatus sua industria, ut potius divortium quæreret, quatenus libertate potita seculum relinquere, et thalamis æterni Regis feliciter posset inhærere, &c.*” *Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 9.* <sup>5</sup> *Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 5.*



honours, her sentiments continued invariably the same, and indeed her intention of quitting them seems rather to have been hastened by that event: for she soon after began to solicit the King's leave to depart the Court, and retire into some Monastery, where she might have more leisure to attend on the duties of religion.<sup>1</sup> The King, who had always showed the greatest regard and esteem for the Queen, at first refused to give her leave; and used all the arguments he could think of to persuade her to alter her purpose; he told her,<sup>2</sup> That however different their manner of living together had been from that of the generality of married persons, it would prove a matter of great uneasiness and concern to him, if ever they should be entirely separated. Her motives for retiring from the world seem to have had their rise from sincere, though doubtless mistaken notions of religion; and for that reason all that the King could urge, made little or no impression on her mind, so as to alter her way of thinking; she daily and with tears renewed her former request; till, wearied with her importunity, and finding all his endeavours to persuade her ineffectual, he was at length prevailed upon to give his consent, that she might leave the Court, and spend the rest of her days agreeably to her own desires, in some religious retirement: Accordingly she soon after went and entered the Monastery of *Coldingham*,<sup>3</sup> where St. *Ebba* the King's Aunt then presided as Abbess, and received the sacred veil from the hands of *Wilfrid* Bishop of *York*.\*

THE Queen's example influenced several other great persons of both sexes in that kingdom, to renounce the world about the same time, and to retire into different Monasteries;<sup>4</sup> of which number was *Ovin* her old servant and prime Minister, who had attended her from the *Isle of Ely* on her marriage, and had continued in her service ever since. "The fervour of his faith now increasing, saith *Bede*, he determined to bid adieu to the world; and this he did effectually; for divesting himself entirely of worldly concerns, and disposing of his temporal possessions, he put on a mean habit, and with only an ax and bill for cutting wood in his hands, he came to the Monastery of the Reverend Father St. *Ceadda*,<sup>5</sup> called *Laefstingean*; <sup>6</sup> signifying thereby his intentions, not to live in idleness, but to work and labour with his hands: and renounced the world, with a pure intention of obtaining thereby a reward in heaven."<sup>7</sup> From the time of his admission into that Monastery, he was a constant attendant on St. *Chad*, who was Abbot there, and also Bishop of *Lichfield*. In the year 672, St. *Chad* removed to *Lichfield*, where he died; and *Ovin* accompanied him thither, and was one of those devout Monks that, by his particular desire, attended him in his last sickness. *Ovin* was in his lifetime so eminent for his piety, that he had the reputation of a Saint, and his Name is inserted in the Roman Calendar accordingly.<sup>8</sup> And that his  
memory

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. cap. 19. <sup>2</sup> "— graviter dolendum se afferit, si aliquando contingat a conjuge dilecta ferre divortium, licet ei nunquam conjunctus esset more conjugatorum." MS. Lib. Elien. lib. i. cap. 10.

<sup>3</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 19. \* Plate IX. N° 2. <sup>4</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 10.

<sup>5</sup> Commonly known by the name of St. Chad. <sup>6</sup> Lastingham in Yorkshire. Tanner's Notitia Monast. pag. 632. <sup>7</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 3. <sup>8</sup> "In Martyrologio Benedictino, v. non. Martias fit commemoratio B. Ovin Monachi, qui fuit Major Familias S. Aedilthridis, cum ad Regem Egfridum sponsa accederet; idem ejus exemplum secutus est cum religionem intraret." Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 3. Not. 24. Edit. Smith.



memory was formerly held in great veneration in the *Isle of Ely*, appears by a memorial of him still in being, a very ancient inscription on a stone found some years since at *Hadenham* near *Ely*; this stone which seems to have been the Base of a Cross, is square, two feet and a half in diameter, and fourteen inches thick; in the middle of the upper part is a square mortise, into which is fixed with lead another stone erect, about four feet high and there broke off, which probably terminated in a Cross. The Inscription, which fills one side of the stone, is this,

+ LVCEM · TVAM · OVINO  
 · DA · DEVS · ET · REQVIĒ  
 · AMEN ·

A prayer that was used by travellers and pilgrims at *S. Ovin's Cross*; possibly erected in his life-time;<sup>1</sup> since the words are capable of a very good sense, and applicable to one still living, 'Grant, O God, to Ovin thy light [*to direct him in this world,*] and rest [*with thee in heaven.*] Amen.' — However, if it was erected after his decease, for his soul; yet doubtless, whilst his memory was fresh in men's minds. And indeed the stone and inscription carry with them the marks of great antiquity; as may likewise be inferred from the purity of the *Roman* Capitals, which begun very early to be corrupted by a mixture of *Saxon*; but in this instance there is only one, viz. the Capital *€*, which is of the *Saxon* cast, the rest being purely *Roman*.\* For these reasons I cannot but look upon this inscribed stone as the most venerable *Saxon* monument we know of in these parts; older by near 200 years than that of *Peterborough* A. D. 870, which is now in their Library, the monumental stone of the Abbot and Monks murdered by the *Danes*.

THE Queen had now dedicated herself wholly to Religion, and was engaged in the practise of the austerities that attend the monastick state of life: whilst the King's affection and esteem for her continued the same; he blamed himself, as having in some measure been the occasion, by giving his consent; and was observed to be very much dissatisfied and uneasy. Those who were immediately about his person, soon found

<sup>1</sup> For the following remarks on this inscribed stone, I am indebted to the Rev. Dr. Stukeley, F.R.S. and late Secretary to the Society of Antiquarians, whose opinion concerning it I had desired in the year 1756. — "The inscription at Hadenham (says he,) I took 50 years ago, when a lad at Cambridge. The stone was the foot of a Cross erected by S. Ovin, Houle-Steward to S. Audry: He lived at Winford, [*about a mile and an half from Hadenham*] so corrupted from Ovin's worth, *Ovini pradium*, a tenant of Tondbert's Prince of the South-Girvii; whose estate the Isle of Ely, was Audry's jointure: so came she and Ovin acquainted. Ovin is a Welsh name; for the Isle of Ely was possessed by the old Britons, long after the Saxons had taken hold of England; as before, was the case in Roman times. I have long ago taken drawings of S. Chad's habitation by the neighbouring Church of Lichfield, where your Ovin heard the Angels at S. Chad's obit: there is his Well, and a little Monastery: The habitation joins on the North-West angle of that Church."

\* By the favour of a Friend, I have lately procured this stone, (which had long time served only for a Horse-block at Hadenham,) intending, with the leave of the Dean and Chapter, to remove it into some place in the Church of Ely, and thereby to preserve so venerable a monument of antiquity.



found out the real cause of his indisposition; and advised him to take the Queen again by force out of the Monastery; and he was without much difficulty persuaded to follow their counsel; for not long after he set forward with a few of his attendants in order to convey her thence. The Abbess, however, had by some means or other got intelligence of the King's design in coming, and took care to inform the Queen of it; and withal suggested to her, that the only means left to prevent the ill consequences that might ensue, would be to leave the place without delay, and retire, as well as she could, to her *Isle of Ely*: To which she consented; and immediately set out on her way, and was but just gone off, when the King arrived. This occasion of the Queen's sudden departure from the Monastery, is omitted by *Bede*, who only informs us, that 'after having been there a year, she was made Abbess of *Ely*.'<sup>1</sup> But the *Ely*-Historian<sup>2</sup> is a little more particular in the relation he gives of her journey to the *Isle of Ely*; and though his account contains a good deal of the marvellous; it may not however be improper to consider it, were it only to explain some sculptures that are still remaining in the Church of *Ely*, which without some previous information of this kind might be unintelligible.

THERE are in all Eight Pieces of Sculpture; one on each of the Pillars that support the Dome and Lantern; all of them Historical, and relate to the History of our St. *Etheldreda*. The First represents her marriage with Prince *Egfrid*, at that time coadjutor with his Father *Oswy* King of *Northumberland*:\* The Second shows the ceremonies used at her receiving the veil in the Monastery of *Coldingham*, from the hands of *Wilfrid* Bishop of *York*.† The Third and Fourth, are designed to represent those two extraordinary incidents of her journey, that happened soon after the Queen's leaving the Monastery, and are thus related by the Writer of her Life; "*Coldingham*, where this Monastery was situate, is nigh to the sea, and not far from it was a rocky eminence called *Coldeburch's-Head*; to which place the Queen and the two Virgins *Sewenna* and *Sewara*, whom she had taken for her companions in the journey, betook themselves immediately after their setting out: In the mean time the King coming to the Monastery, and finding the Queen was gone, resolved to pursue her; and in his way, came up to the side of the rock where the Queen and her companions were; but was prevented from coming near them, by a sudden and unusual inundation of water from the sea, which surrounded the hill, and continued in that state several days, without retiring into it's former chanel: Amazed at the strangeness of this appearance, the King presently interpreted it, as the interposition of Heaven in her favour, and concluded that it was not the will of God that he should have her again: and this occasioned his retiring to *York* again, leaving the Queen quietly to pursue her journey." This is the substance of what is represented in Plate X. N°. 3.—The other extraordinary event, as told by the same Author, and exhibited in the same Plate N°. 4. is as follows: After the King was returned to *York*, the Queen and her two companions left the place, and travelled as far as the River *Humber*, over which they were safely conveyed, and arrived at *Wintringham*; thence turning to a neighbouring village called

*Alftham*,

<sup>1</sup> *Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 19.*

<sup>2</sup> *Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 11.*

\* (Plate IX. N°. 1.)

† (Plate IX. N°. 2.)



3

Sanctam Etheldredam protegit Clementia divina.



4

Prondeseit baculum Sanctæ Etheldredæ.



Viro Rev.<sup>do</sup> Hugoni Thomas S.T.P. hanc Tabulam, sumptibus suis in cere  
 37  64 Decano Ecclesiae Cath: Elien: insculptam, grato animo D.D.D. Jacobus Bentham.







*Alftham*, they were courteously entertained, and stay'd a few days, and 'there she built a Church:'<sup>1</sup> From *Alftham* they continued their journey, on foot, in the habit of Pilgrims, not by the direct road, but through by-ways and lanes to avoid the danger of pursuers: It happened that one day being tired with the length of the journey and heat of the weather, and coming to a commodious spot of ground, the Queen found herself disposed to rest, and laid herself down to sleep, whilst her two faithful attendants watched by her; On awaking, she observed that the pilgrims-staff which she had fixed in the ground by her, had all the appearance of vegetable life in it, and found it had taken root in the earth, and put forth leaves and shoots.<sup>2</sup> (Plate X. N<sup>o</sup>. 4.) Her staff thus miraculously planted, adds my Author, afterwards became one of the tallest and most flourishing trees in the Country, and the place is to this day called *Etheldrede's-Stow*; <sup>3</sup> and a Church is there built in honour of this holy Queen.<sup>4</sup>—I do not find any other extraordinary incident attending her: However, after a difficult and hazardous journey, the Queen and her two attendants arrived safe at *Ely*, and was received by her people with all the honours due to her character and high station: She was soon after followed by *Huna* a Priest, who administered to her in the offices of religion; and *Wilfrid* Bishop of *York*, as soon as he was informed of her arrival at *Ely*, set out for the same place, and came to assist her in the sacred offices of his function.

*Wilfrid* had been promoted to the See of *York* by *Oswy* the late King, who also gave him many possessions in lands and great riches; and he stood upon very good terms with King *Egfrid*, so long as his Queen *Etheldreda* continued in the Court; but upon her leaving it, and entering into Religion, he was immediately discarded by the King, who suspected that she had acted in that affair wholly by his counsel and advice. After the King's return to *York*, from his unsuccessful attempt to recover her from the Monastery, as before mentioned; looking upon that marriage as now dissolved, he entered on a second marriage with a Princess whose name was *Ermenburga*. The Bishop was never liked by the new Queen, on account of the freedom he sometimes took in reminding her of her faults; and she irritated the King, already too much incensed and therefore inclined to receive any ill impression, against him; inso-much that in the year 678. the King carried his resentment so high, as by the assistance of *Theodore* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, to deprive him for a time of all his preferments.<sup>5</sup>

BUT

<sup>1</sup> 'Domino Ecclesiam construxit.' Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 13. — I do not well understand that passage. — Probably he means, she gave orders about building a Church. It is remarkable however, that in a village near Wintringham now called Halton, the Church is dedicated to our St. Etheldreda, and is probably the same that is called *Alftham* by my Author. See Ecton's Thesaurus 2d. Edit. 4to. pag. 205. <sup>2</sup> Much the same Story is told by Malmesbury, concerning the Pastoral Staff of Aldhelm Bp. of Shireburn. Angl. Sacr. vol. ii. pag. 24. <sup>3</sup> I am sorry I am not able to direct the reader, where to find this remarkable spot of ground, not being sufficiently acquainted with the Country. <sup>4</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 13. <sup>5</sup> The new Queen thought he was grown too great and powerful, and the pretence made use of to reduce him, was the large extent of his Diocese, and the greatness of his revenues, judged sufficient to maintain two or three Bishops; and therefore the King and Theodore, (whom he had gained to his interest,) arbitrarily erected two other Bishopricks within his Diocese, out of part of his revenues, against his consent. Eddii vita S. Wilfridi, cap. 24. — Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 12.



BUT to return to *Queen Etheldreda*: on her arrival at *Ely*, her first design was to have repaired the old Church of King *Ethelbert's* foundation, then in ruins, which was situate at *Cratendune*, about a mile distant from the present City;<sup>1</sup> and to have dedicated it, as it had formerly been, to the honour of the blessed Virgin *Mary*, and to have built a Monastery there: But before this design had proceeded too far, a more commodious situation was made choice of, an eminence nearer to the River, as fitter for her purpose; and in this place the foundations of her Church were laid, and the Monastery begun to be built. It was not long after, that the inhabitants of *Cratendune* followed her example, by deserting it; and begun building the present City on the ground near adjoining to the Monastery.<sup>2</sup> The Queen was assisted in carrying on her buildings, by *Adulfus* her Brother, at that time King of the *East-Angles*, who defrayed great part of the expence; but it is probable, that the plan of her buildings was formed by Bishop *Wilfrid*, and that he had the ordering and direction of the work; for he was very well skilled in Architecture, and spent a considerable time with her at *Ely*, at her first coming thither; he also performed the Episcopal office in constituting her Abbesses with the usual ceremony of Benediction, and in the admission of the other members of this Society. [Plate XI. N<sup>o</sup>. 5.]

“ In the *English* and *Latin* Chronicles, it is recorded, (says the Writer of her Life,<sup>3</sup>) that *Etheldreda* began her buildings in *Ely*, in the year of our Lord 673; and in a short time assembled a congregation of persons of both sexes fearing God, under a regular course of life.”—By this account, or any thing else to be met with in her story, it does not appear that this Monastery was of any particular Order, properly so called. It is highly probable, that in our ancient *Saxon* Monasteries, every Founder prescribed such rules for the government of their respective Societies, and the Abbots, or Abbesses added such others, as they thought best and most conducive to the advancement of Religion, and the glory of God; in the choice of which rules, it is likely indeed they paid some especial regard to those they had been used to in the Houses where they received their education, and at the same time adopted others, such as they found practised and most approved of in other Monasteries, whether at home or abroad;<sup>4</sup> but without confining themselves to any one or other established Order. That the *Benedictine* Rule was known very early among the *Saxons*, appears by *Eddius* in his Life of Bp. *Wilfrid*; for he expressly says, that *Wilfrid* introduced it, and improved the *English* Church by it:<sup>1</sup> but whether he means that he first brought it into *England*, or only into the Northern parts of the Kingdom, admits of some doubt. However, if the

Mo-

<sup>1</sup> Page 11. <sup>2</sup> The Name of the Old Town is still preserved in a field, about a mile South of the present City, called *Cratendon Field*; but the exact situation of it is hardly discoverable at this time: we are told, however, “ that there have been found upon the place, utensils of iron, coins of various Kings, and other indications of it's having been formerly inhabited.” Lib. Elien. MS. de Situ Insulæ Eliensis. — Angl. Sacr. Vol. i. Præf. pag. xlii. <sup>3</sup> “ In cronicis vero Anglicis et Latinis habetur, quod anno ab Incarnatione Domini 673. Ætheldretha in Eli fabricas incepit, atque in brevi cetum utriusque sexus Deum timentium sub tramite vitæ Regularis collegit.” Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 15. — “ Anno Incarnationis 673. S. Virgo Christi Ætheldritha Regina cœpit ædificare Monasterium apud Elig.” Affer. Annales ad annum. <sup>4</sup> Vide Bedæ Hist. Abb. Wiremuth. et Gyrw. pag. 297.



5.

Sancta Etheldreda Abbatisa facta.



6.

Mors & Sepultura Sanctæ Etheldredæ.



To the R.<sup>t</sup> Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Thomas Lord Montfort, Baron of Harseheath, this Plate engraved at his expense, is most gratefully inscribed by James Benthani 1764.





the Diocese of another; but be content with the government of the people committed to him." But then, with respect to Monasteries within his Diocese, his power is limited by the particular privileges that had been granted them, which he is enjoined not to violate; for the 3d. Canon is,<sup>1</sup> "That whatever Monasteries are dedicated to God, none of the Bishops may disturb them [in the enjoyment of their privileges,] nor forcibly take away any of their [temporal] possessions." The sense and meaning of these Canons, is best explained by the practice and usage of the Church in the times immediately succeeding that Synod. The *Isle of Ely*, in which *S. Etheldreda* founded her Monastery, was reckoned part of the Kingdom of the *East-Angles*;<sup>2</sup> and therefore within the Diocese of that Bishop; for at that time Dioceses were coextended with the several Kingdoms,<sup>3</sup> and there was but one Bishop of the *East-Angles*, and he had ordinary jurisdiction over the whole: And yet we find *Wilfrid* bishop of the *Northumbrians* immediately after the holding that Synod, (in which he was present by his Proxies,<sup>4</sup> who had consented and subscribed to the Canons there made,) to have performed the Episcopal Office in the Monastery of *Ely*, and he continued to do so during the life of the Royal Foundress; and that without any infringement on the rights of the Bishop of the *East-Angles*, or acting contrary to the 2d Canon above-mentioned; but rather under the sanction of the 3d Canon, by virtue of that privilege belonging to the Monastery of *Ely*, whereby it was exempt from the ordinary jurisdiction of the Bishop of the *East-Angles*; the Abbess having at that time a privilege of choosing whatever Bishop she pleased; and she exercised it, by preferring *Wilfrid* to perform the Episcopal offices within her Monastery. This primary exemption is sufficiently clear from facts, and is afterwards recited in King *Edward* the Confessor's Charter to the Church of *Ely*,<sup>5</sup> and there declared to be the ground of its exemption at that time from the jurisdiction of the Bishop of the Diocese.

THE manner of life observed in these Monasteries, was very strict; their time being usually spent in prayer, fasting, watchings, and other spiritual exercises, and especially in the study of the holy Scriptures. We have but little handed down to us concerning the particular rules, customs, and usages established in *S. Etheldreda's* Monastery at *Ely*; only we are told in general, "That all the members of it had one and the same Rule; Obedience the principal and chief virtue, the love of God's worship, and a strict observance of awful and devout behaviour in the House of God:"<sup>6</sup> But *Etheldreda's*

own

<sup>1</sup> "Ut quæque Monasteria Deo consecrata sunt, nulli Episcoporum liceat inquietare, nec quicquam de eorum rebus violenter abstrahere." *ibid.* <sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* cap. 19. <sup>3</sup> Only in Kent were there two Bishopricks founded, Canterbury and Rochester. East-Anglia was soon after divided into two; one See continued at Dunwich, and the other was placed at Elmham. <sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* cap. 5. <sup>5</sup> "Sitque in eorum, ut semper fuit, arbitrio, a quocumque potissimum eligerint Ordinari, vel sua sanctificari Episcopo: Convenienti equidem dispositione Regina [*Etheldreda*] hac utitur libertate, quæ Regem, regnum, mundumque florentem deferens, Insulam pro dotalitio possedit, ubi sponso suo Christo integerrime servivit: Hæc quemcumque voluit Episcopum ascivit, sed Sanctus Wilfridus Eboracensis Archiepiscopus familiarior extitit, qui eam cum suo cœtu Virginum consecravat." Vide Cartam Regis Edwardi Conf. in Appendice. <sup>6</sup> "Omnibus ibi una eadem regula est, præcipua Virtus et prima eis [*forte est*] Obedientia, amor divini cultus, et decorem Domus Dei tota observantia cultodire." *Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 15.*



own conduct and general practice will in some measure instruct us in their customary way and manner of living in it; for the Abbess herself, as well by her example as precepts, was the standing rule of perfection to the rest of the society: and *Bede* informs us, "That from her first entrance on her office, she never wore any linen, but only woollen garments; that she usually eat only once a day, except on the greater festivals, or in time of sickness; and, if her health permitted, she never returned to bed after Matins, which were held at midnight, but continued her prayers in the Church till break of day."<sup>1</sup> The high opinion that the world entertained of her Sanctity, together with the exact discipline observed in her Monastery, had a wonderful effect in recommending this austerity of life to the esteem of many, and gained abundance of Converts to it: *Huna* her Chaplain, the Priest that attended her in holy offices, became a Monk under her, and distinguished himself by great strictness of living, and in the practice of all those austerities that were then used in the monastick state: there were also persons of the noblest families, and matrons of high rank, that came and put themselves under her direction, being desirous to learn her discipline; or brought their Children to be educated and devoted to Religion in her Monastery:<sup>2</sup> and some even of Royal state thought proper to quit their high stations, and subjected themselves to the rules of her government, as her eldest Sister *Sexburga* Queen of *Kent*, *Ermenilda* (Daughter of *Sexburga*,) Queen of *Mercia*, who also brought her only Daughter the Princess *Werbura*:<sup>3</sup> these three great Personages were members of this Society, during the life-time of *Etheldreda*; and all of them succeeded her in their order to the government of this Monastery.

FOR the maintenance and support of this her Society, the Royal Foundress settled the whole *Isle of Ely*,<sup>4</sup> being a Principality with the temporal power and jurisdiction, and all the profits arising from the government of it; the revenues whereof were very considerable, and had formerly been applied, and no doubt were sufficient to support the dignity of a *Saxon* Alderman of the first rank. And to establish this her royal foundation the more firmly and securely to future ages, she gave in charge and recommended it to the care of Bishop *Wilfrid*, who in the year 678 was on his departure towards *Rome*, to procure the Pope's confirmation of her Grant, and of the Liberties and Immunities of the place; that her Congregation there assembled, might continue in the service of God, and in the regular observance of discipline, free from want and from the disturbance or exaction of any officer of what power, eminence or authority soever: which Confirmation of the Privileges and Immunities of her Monastery *Wilfrid* is said to have obtained from the Pope:<sup>5</sup> But before his return from *Rome*, our Abbess died of an epidemical disease that prevailed at that time in her Monastery, and had carried off several of the Nuns and others of her family. She is said, by the spirit of prophecy<sup>6</sup> to have foretold this contagious distemper, and the exact

number

<sup>1</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 19.    <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 17, 18.    <sup>3</sup> Ibid. — "Uxor Wulferi Ermenilda, mortuo marito, [A. D. 675] cum filia sua Werburga apud Ely est attonsa sub Sancta Etheldreda Abbatisa." Higden. Polychron. apud XV. Scriptores, per Gale. pag. 240.  
<sup>4</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 15.    <sup>5</sup> Ibid.    <sup>6</sup> Bedæ Hist. Eccl. lib. iv. cap. 19.



number of her household that would be taken out of the world by it, and herself among the rest.

DURING her sickness she retained her usual cheerfulness, and discoursed with those about her with great calmness and composure of mind, concerning the vanity of this world, and her own approaching end. Her disorder was attended with a tumour under her jaw, which on consultation with *Kinefrid* her Physician, was thought proper to be opened by incision, and the operation was performed by him; and for two Days she seemed to be greatly relieved by it; the tumour visibly subsided, and the fever abated: but on the third Day the fever returned with greater violence; when finding herself much worse, and that she had not many hours to live; ordered the whole Convent to be assembled in her presence, being desirous to take her last farewell of them all.<sup>1</sup> She then told them, that the time of her departure was at hand, and renewed her discourse of the vanity of all this world's enjoyments; and earnestly recommended to them to keep heaven always in view; by which, she said, they might in some measure have a foretaste of the joys of that place, which they would never be able fully to comprehend, till they were delivered from their earthly prisons.

HAVING before settled all her worldly affairs, she declined speaking or hearing any thing about them; and dwelt only on the love of Christ, and prayed with great fervency that he would send his holy Angels to receive her soul. After this she received the holy communion of the Body and Blood of Christ; and commended them all to his gracious protection: and whilst she was praying earnestly, that he would be for ever propitious to the inhabitants of the place, and their continual Preserver and Keeper; she yielded up her Soul into the hands of her Creator on the 23d day of *June*, in the year of our Lord, 679, amidst the religious of her Monastery of both sexes; \* in the 7th year after she was made Abbess, in the reign of her Brother *Adulfus* King of *East-Anglia*, and of her Nephew *Lothair* King of *Kent*, and her late Husband *Egfrid* still reigning in *Northumberland*. Her funeral rites were performed by *Huna* <sup>2</sup> her Priest and one of her Monks, attended by all the members of her Monastery; she was buried in a wooden coffin, and by her express order in the common cemetery of the Nuns.

THE true Character of our Abbess *Etheldreda*, may easily be deduced from what is above related of her: and it appears she was a Queen as eminent for her piety, as she was illustrious by her birth; naturally of a grave serious turn of mind; and for humility, meekness, and contempt of the world had few equals; zealous for promoting holiness of life and manners, which seems to have been the end she always had in view. If the means she used to that end, were not the best adapted to it, or in all points

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 21: \* Plate XI. No. 6. represents, in two compartments, the Death and Interment of St. Etheldreda. <sup>2</sup> Soon after the death of St. Etheldreda, Huna retired to a small Island in the fens near Ely, which was called after his name *Huneia*; there he spent the rest of his days as an Anchorite, and died with the reputation of a Saint. Many resorted to his tomb, and are said to have recovered their health by his merits; which occasioned his tomb to be broke open, and his relics to be deposited in the Monastery of Thorney, where they were long preserved and held in great veneration. Lib. Elien. lib. i. cap. 22. — Monast. Angl. vol. i. pag. 91.



7.



8.



To the Hon. Charles Hoare Cadogan Treasurer to  
 Parl. for the Town of Cambr. this Plate engraved at  
 His Royal Highness the Duke of York, & Membr. of  
 his expense, is most gratefully inscribed by Ja. Bentham.  
 1763.









points agreeable to the rules of true religion; if she set too high a value on the merits of virginity, and thought it the sum of perfection; as she may indeed be said to have carried that virtue to excess, or, as others thought, to a pitch of heroism; it was owing to the prevailing notions of religion in the times in which she lived, and the monastick rules she had been taught. But bating these mistaken notions, in which she had been bred up, and her peculiar manner of thinking; we cannot but admire her resolution, constancy, and perseverance in what she judged to be right, and agreeable to her opinion of religious duties; though it appears to be wrong founded; and therefore by no means is her conduct in all respects proposed as a pattern fit for imitation. The gaieties and splendor of a Court were never agreeable to one of her temper and disposition, who was constant at her devotions, and passionately devoted to religion, and the promoting piety in others: Whilst she resided at the *Northumbrian* Court, she affected the life of a recluse, seldom appearing abroad or in publick; but spent much of her time in conversation with persons of both sexes eminent for their piety and virtue, or such as were so reputed; among whom *Wilfrid* Bishop of *York*, and *St. Cuthbert*, whilst yet an Anchorite, and before he was made Bishop of *Lindisfarne*, were the chief: and when she became Queen, by the accession of her husband *Egfrid* to the Crown of *Northumberland* and Monarchy of the *English* Nation, and she could no longer with decency continue there without making her appearance frequently in publick; she laid hold on the occasion of quitting her station; and by her importunity obtained the King's leave of retiring to a Monastery. After she was made Abbess of *Ely*, she led a severe mortified life herself; and would often tell those who were under her care, and remind them, 'That the fashion of this world passeth away; and that only was to be accounted life, which was purchased by submitting to temporal inconveniencies.'<sup>1</sup> As she was a strict observer herself of awful behaviour and reverence in the House of God, so was she a severe exacter of it in others; and made that one of the standing Rules of her Monastery. Temperance, as well in eating as drinking, was at all times another conspicuous part of her Character: she had learned to be content with a little herself, and disposed of her abundance in the relief of others: she gave all her possessions to Religious uses; her jointure that she had by King *Egfrid*, which was *Hexham*,<sup>2</sup> and the territory thereto belonging, she gave, with the King's consent, to *Wilfrid*, and a Bishoprick was there founded in her life-time; and that which she had by her first Husband *Tonbert*, she settled on the Monastery she had founded at *Ely*. In her last sickness, when sensible of her approaching end, she was calm and composed; and retained her memory and understanding to the last, and expired in the very act of her calling, in the presence of her flock; and whilst she was instructing them how to live, by her example taught them also how to die.

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. lib. i. cap. 15.<sup>2</sup> Page 21.



*St. SEXBURGA, the second Abbess.*

**S**EXBURGA, the eldest Sister of St. *Etheldreda*, by the unanimous election of the Nuns, succeeded her in the government of this Monastery. She had been married to *Ercombert* King of *Kent*, about the year 640, by whom she had two Sons *Egbert* and *Lothair*, successively Kings of *Kent*, and two Daughters *Ermenilda* and *Erkengota*. After the death of her Husband *Ercombert*, who died in the year 664,<sup>1</sup> she was some time Regent of the Kingdom, during the minority of her Son *Egbert*;<sup>2</sup> and when he came of age to take upon himself the administration of government, Queen *Sexburga* resigned the regency; and went and founded a Monastery in the Isle of *Shepey* in *Kent*, which she completed, and obtained of her Son King *Egbert* lands in that Island and other revenues, for the maintenance of Seventy-seven Nuns; but thinking it improper to preside over them as Abbess, not having been in a state of probation herself,<sup>3</sup> she appointed her Daughter *Ermenilda* Queen Dowager of *Mercia* their Abbess, who had some time before been veiled at *Ely*; and she herself retired thither, and put herself under the government of her Sister St. *Etheldreda*; on whose death, as is before mentioned, she was elected Abbess; and with great zeal and diligence maintained a regular observance of the Rules and Orders established by her Sister St. *Etheldreda*; and was both by her instructions and actions a teacher and pattern of all those virtues that adorn the monastick life, in watching, abstinence, charity, and every other virtue becoming her station.

THE most memorable affair transacted in the Monastery in her time, was the translation of the Body of St. *Etheldreda* from the place where it was at first interred, into the Church, sixteen years after her decease. That the very remains of the bodies of persons eminent for piety and holiness of life, added a kind of holiness to the places where they were interred, and communicated something of their virtue to all that visited them and applied to them properly; was an opinion that obtained very early, and occasioned a frequent resort to their graves. People in general had a high opinion of the extraordinary merits of St. *Etheldreda*; for that miracles were said to have been wrought at the place where she was buried: on which account her Sister *Sexburga* our Abbess was desirous, both for the sake of doing greater honour to her memory, and for the more extensively communicating the virtue of her merits, to translate her remains into some conspicuous place within the Church: and having signified her intention to the rest of the Society, it was approved of by them all. Some of the Monks were ordered to provide a Stone for making a Coffin; but as the *Isle of Ely* afforded no Stone of a proper size for their purpose; they went up the river to a small City then in ruins, not far distant from the Isle, called *Grantacaester*;<sup>4</sup> near the walls of the City they found an elegant Marble Coffin, and brought it with them to the Monastery. On the day appointed for the solemnity there

was

<sup>1</sup> Floren. Wigorn. ad annum.    <sup>2</sup> Monast. Angl. vol. i. pag. 88.    <sup>3</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. cap. 18.  
<sup>4</sup> *Grantacaester*.] This was undoubtedly the old name of Cambridge in Bede's time; it was situated on the North-west side of the river Grant, on an elevated ground containing about 30 Acres, enclosed with



was a great concourse of people from all parts: *Wilfrid* Bishop of *York*, and *Kinefrid* the Physician who attended her in her last sickness and saw her laid in the grave, were both present on this occasion: and it is from the information of this latter that *Bede* seems to have taken the account he gives of this transaction, which is in substance as follows: 'A Tent or Pavilion provided for that purpose was placed over her grave, and the whole congregation of the Monks and Nuns belonging to the Monastery, proceeded to the place of her interment; and standing round the pavilion in regular order, on the one side the Monks, and on the other the Nuns, all joined in singing Hymns and Psalms of praise: In the mean time proper persons were employed within the Tent in removing the earth out of the grave; and when they were come to the Coffin, the Abbess *Sexburga*, attended by some of the Nuns, entered the pavilion in order to assist in taking up the body out of the grave. They had not been long there before the Abbess was distinctly heard to cry out as in a kind of extacy and surprize, 'Glory be to the Name of the Lord;' and presently the door was opened, and *Kinefrid* called in, who beheld the body of the holy Virgin just taken out of the grave and placed on a bier, where it lay as if she had been asleep; and he found the wound he had made by incision in her neck, quite healed, and that there appeared only the remains of a small scar upon the part. Bp. *Wilfrid* also and others who were present asserted that her body appeared as sound and free from corruption<sup>2</sup> as if it had been buried that same day. After the religious Virgins had washed the body, and clothed it in new vestments, it was conveyed into the Church and deposited in the Marble Coffin before-mentioned; where it remained in *Bede's* time, and continued many ages after in great veneration.\* — I omit many wonderful things said to have been done by the merits of St. *Etheldreda* after her death, which are recorded in her History; the miracles performed by the touch of her clothes, and of the wooden coffin in which her body was at first laid in the grave; and the great cures effected by the spring of water that issued from the place where she was first interred. — This Translation of the body of St. *Etheldreda* into the Church of *Ely* was in the year 695,<sup>3</sup> on the 17th of *October*; which day was observed in the following ages as a Feast, and has still a place in our Calendar.

*Sex-*

with a Vallum and Ditch, the Vestiges of which may be easily traced out; within it, are now included the Castle and the greatest part of the Town lying on that side of the river. (See Stukeley's Palæograph. Brit. Part.ii. p. 36.) The opinion of its having been a Roman station, seems well-grounded from the Coin and other Antiquities that have been found there, and is confirmed by the number of Roman Tiles or Bricks which appear in the wall of St. Peter's Church, standing within the South angle of this antient Fortification: and as the Coffin found by the Monks of *Ely*, is expressly said by *Bede* [Hist. lib. iv. cap. 19.] to have been found near the walls of this antient City, then in ruins; and was, as he calls it, an elegant Marble Coffin; — it was probably a Roman Sarcophagus: there being no place near the Isle of *Ely* at that time so likely to afford any thing of that kind as this, where there still remain other reliques of Roman Antiquities. — As for the small village of *Granchester* near *Cambridge*; there is no appearance of its ever having been a place of much greater note than at present; besides, the very name of *Granchester* is but modern, or given to it within a Century or two past, in all ancient writings it is called *Grantese*, not *Granchester*.<sup>1</sup> *Bedæ* Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 19. <sup>2</sup> The incorruptness of St. *Etheldreda's* Body long after her death, was a fact that none of our Monks seemed to doubt of: they believed, or affected to believe, that it continued in that state many ages after; though it seems none of them ever presumed to examine into the state of it, being deterred by the many judgments they tell us had befallen those who at different times had presumed to violate her repose. MS. Lib. Elien. lib. i. cap. 41, 43, 48, 49, — Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 602, 603. \* Plate XII. N°. 7. <sup>3</sup> Floren. Wigorn. ad annum.



*Sexburga*, after she had been Abbess, and had with great commendation governed this Monastery of *Ely* about twenty years, deceased in a good old age on the 6th of *July* in the year of our Lord 699.<sup>1</sup> and was by her own appointment deposited in the Church next to her Sister *St. Etheldreda*.

*St. ERMENILDA, third Abbess.*

THE Monastery of *Ely* did not continue long vacant; for the Convent soon chose *ERMENILDA*, daughter of *Ercombert* King of *Kent* and *Sexburga* his Queen our late Abbess, to succeed her. She had been married to *Wulfere* King of *Mercia*, and had by him one Daughter *Werbura*, with whom, on the death of her Husband King *Wulfere* in the year 675, she entered into religion in the Monastery of *Ely* under her Aunt *Etheldreda*; but soon quitted it, on her being appointed Abbess of the Monastery of *Shepey* in *Kent*, when her Mother *Sexburga* left it and came to *Ely*, as is before mentioned: it is probable she had continued there ever since, and was thence called to take upon her the government of this Monastery: however, before she came to settle at *Ely*, she procured her Daughter *Werbura* to be made Abbess of *Shepey* in her room.

WE have little or nothing recorded of the transactions in the Monastery during the government of our Abbess *Ermenilda*; neither is the day or year of her death mentioned; only her decease is commemorated on the 13th day of *February*, and was formerly observed as a Festival in the Church of *Ely*, where her body was placed in a Stone Coffin next to that of her Mother *Sexburga*.

*St. WERBURGA, fourth Abbess.*

WERBURGA at the time of her Mother *Ermenilda's* death, presided as Abbess over several Monasteries in *Mercia*, as well as *Shepey* in *Kent*. It is before observed, that on the death of her Father King *Wulfere* in 675, she accompanied her Mother to the Monastery of *Ely*, and there received the veil under her Mother's Aunt *St. Etheldreda*. How long she continued at *Ely* is not mentioned; but having there learned the Monastick discipline, she was invited by her Uncle *Ethelred* King of *Mercia* her Father's immediate Successor in that Kingdom, to return home, and take upon her the government of some Monasteries then lately founded in that Kingdom for religious Virgins; with whose desire she complied, and had the Monasteries of <sup>2</sup> *Heanburge* and *Trengbam* committed to her care, and is said to have converted the Royal Palace at *Wedon on the Street* <sup>3</sup> into a Nunnery; <sup>4</sup> and was at length prevailed on to take upon her the administration of the Monastery at *Ely*.

*St. Werburga* seems to have presided over these several Monasteries at the same time, and probably till her death; dividing her care and attention between them, living sometimes at one, and sometimes at another, as occasion required. Her desire was to be buried at *Heanburge*, and she gave orders that where-ever she should happen

to

<sup>1</sup> Cressi's Ch. Hist. Book xx. chap. xvii. <sup>2</sup> Now called Hanbury, and Trentham, both in Staffordshire. <sup>3</sup> Wedon Bec, in Northamptonshire. <sup>4</sup> Tanner's Notitia Monast. pag. 373.



to die, her body should be conveyed thither to be interred. She died at *Tricengham* on the 3d of February, but in what year is uncertain; <sup>1</sup> and the Society there had a mind to keep possession of her body, and had it conveyed into their Church; but before it was interred, the *Heanburge* Society came, and by force carried it off, and buried it in their Church. About nine years after, her body was taken up in order to be enshrined, at which time it is said to have been whole and entire and without any visible signs of decay. It remained in that Monastery till the year 875, when the Danes ravaging those parts, and coming as far as *Repton* in *Derbyshire*, the inhabitants of *Heanburge* fled, and taking with them the body of *St. Werburga*, conveyed it to *Chester*, as a place of greater safety.<sup>2</sup>

WERBURGA is the last Abbess <sup>3</sup> whose Name is conveyed down to us: though it appears that the Monastery of *Ely* continued, under an uninterrupted succession of Abbesses, and in the regular observance of that Order and Discipline first established there by *St. Etheldreda*, 197 years. In the latter part of that period, whilst most of the Churches and Monasteries in the Kingdom suffered much by wars, and many of them were destroyed in the *Danish* invasions, which then began to be frequent in *England*; the *Isle of Ely* was all that time free from those calamities; the Monastery was in a very flourishing condition, and the inhabitants lived there in peace and tranquillity, secure and undisturbed in their possessions and their civil and religious liberties: and this prosperous state of things continued till the latter part of the fatal year 870. when the scene was suddenly changed: some roving parties of the *Danes* having then made a discovery of this place of retirement and seeming security; which was soon followed by an hostile invasion and descent on the Isle, and ended in the utter destruction of the Monastery, and slaughter of the inhabitants.

<sup>1</sup> *St. Werburga*, who is said in the *Saxon Chronicle* to have died A.D. 782, was a different person from our *St. Werburga*; the former was Queen of *Mercia*, and wife of *Ceolred* King of *Mercia*, who afterwards became an Abbess, but of what Monastery is not said. <sup>2</sup> *Higdeni Polichron.* pag. 240, 257. Edit. Gale. — Her relicks were deposited there in a Monastery dedicated to *St. Peter* and *St. Paul*; which being afterwards ruined, *K. Ethelstan* and other *Saxon* Kings repaired it, and put in *Secular Canons* in honour of the holy Virgin *St. Werburga*. After the Conquest, about A.D. 1093. *Hugh Lupus* Earl of *Chester*, at the instance of *Anselm* Abp. of *Cant.* put out the *Seculars*, and introduced *Benedictine Monks* in their room; who continued in possession of *St. Werburga's* Church, till the general dissolution of Monasteries, when *K. Henry VIII.* made it a Bishop's See. *Tanner's Notitia Monast.* pag. 57. <sup>3</sup> The year in which *St. Werburga* died, I do not find any where mention'd: but the Author of her Life (*MS. Benet Coll. Cambr. I. 13.*) informs us, that her body was taken up 9 years after her decease, to translate it to a more eminent part of the Church of *Heanburge*, by order of *Ceolred* K. of *Mercia*, who began his reign A.D. 708, or 709. and died A.D. 716, or 717. — See also *Higden. Polychron.* pag. 244. Edit. Gale.



*Of the Destruction of St. Etheldreda's Monastery at ELY by the Danes.*

THE *Danes*, who for near three Centuries together infested this Kingdom, were a mixt people from the Northern parts of *Germany*, bordering on the *German Ocean* and the *Baltick Sea*, and the adjacent Isles;<sup>1</sup> *Danes, Goths, Swedes, Norwegians, Frisians*, and other neighbouring States leagued together, under no regular government, but as Pirates and Robbers; barbarous and uncivilized in their manners, cruel and inhuman in their temper and disposition: all these people were Pagans, and what is worse, had a particular hatred and aversion to the Christian Religion; an enemy the most dreadful, because the most savage of any that this Kingdom had seen. The first account we meet with of any of them landing in *England*, was in the year 791:<sup>2</sup> their numbers were then, and for a good while after, not very considerable; and their attempts only on the coasts, in robbing and plundering some defenceless towns and villages. The *Saxons* at that time were almost destitute of ships of war, and therefore found it very difficult to oppose these bold invaders of their Country, who were well provided in that respect: besides, their descents on the coasts, were generally sudden and unexpected; so that before sufficient forces could be brought together to oppose them, they were gone off, and retired to their ships; and landing in some distant parts of the Kingdom, committed the like cruelties again without resistance. The success they met with in carrying on this kind of piratical war, encouraged them afterwards to fit out very large fleets, and they often landed in such numbers, as were sufficient to over-run the Kingdom, and threatened the utter subversion of the *Saxon* state. Our Annals of those times are filled with narratives of the frequent invasions and sudden descents of the *Danes*, and the great devastations and cruelties committed by them in all parts of this Island: but the most fatal and memorable was that which begun in 866, the first year of *Ethelred* King of the *West-Saxons*; when having fitted out a very large Fleet, and embarked a vast number of men, they set sail for *East-Anglia*, and landing on the coast, took up their winter quarters in that Kingdom: The spring and summer following they made use of in collecting all the horses they could find in those parts; and this is the first time of their having any cavalry among them, as is taken notice of by our Historians.<sup>3</sup> About the end of the year 867, the *Danes* suddenly quitted *East-Anglia*, and marched with all their forces directly to *York*; and made themselves masters of that City without opposition: Their inducement to this sudden attack, was a Civil war then subsisting among the *Northumbrians*, who had lately deposed *Osbert* their King, and set up *Ella* in his stead: These two competitors, however, came to an agreement in joining their forces against the common Enemy; but endeavouring to rescue the City out of their hands, were both of them slain, and their Army cut to pieces: After which the *Danes* wasted the Country as far as the river *Tine*, and set up *Egbert* an Englishman to hold the Kingdom under them. The next year the *Danish* Army made an expedition into *Mercia*, and took

<sup>1</sup> Matth. Westm. ad ann. 838. — Simeonis Dunelm. Hist. Eccl. Dunelm. l. ii. c. 6. Joh. Fordun Scotorum Hist. l. iv. c. 15, 17. <sup>2</sup> Matth. Westm. ad ann. 791. — Vide Chron. Saxon. et Floren. Wigorn. ad ann. 787. <sup>3</sup> Asserii Annal. — Matth. Westm. — et Floren. Wigorn. ad ann. 866.



took *Nottingham* : and though *Burrhed* King of *Mercia* with all his forces, and those under *Ethelred* King of the *West-Saxons* and his Brother *Alfred*, who came to his assistance, endeavoured to recover the place ; yet the *Danes* kept possession ; and the King was forced to make peace with them. From *Nottingham* the *Danes* in the year 869, marched their Army back to *York*, and continued there all that Winter : during which season, great preparations were making abroad, to recruit their Army that was already in *England*. For early in the Spring following, that is, in the year 870, another body of 20000 <sup>1</sup> men embarked in a Fleet, under the command of *Hinguar* and *Hubba*, two of their Princes, as infamous for their cruelty, as they were renowned for their conduct and experience in war. It was their intention to have made a descent with this formidable Army on *East-Anglia* ; but being driven by contrary winds on the coast of *Scotland*,<sup>2</sup> they landed there, and begun those cruelties and devastation, which they continued all the succeeding part of the year without intermission ; destroying all before them with fire and sword, and slaying the inhabitants without distinction of Age or Sex. At this time was the Monastery of *Coldingham*,<sup>3</sup> where our St. *Etbeldreda* formerly received her religious institutes, destroyed : the Abbess and all the Nuns and others there were murdered, and the Buildings set on fire over them, and all consumed by the flames. Thence passing the *Tweed*, the Pagan Army marched Southward, directing their course on the East-side of the Kingdom ; whilst the Fleet kept sailing near the coast, to attend the motions of the Army, with a view of favouring their operations by land, and taking on board the spoils of the Country, or reinforcing the Army, as occasion required : and landing some of their men on *Lindisfarne* or *Holy-Island* ; then an Episcopal See, and famous for the Body of St. *Cuthbert* there interred ; they plundered that Monastery. In the mean time their Army moving forward, destroyed several noble Monasteries <sup>4</sup> that had been planted in those parts ; among which were, One for religious Women at *Tinemouth* ; the two Monasteries of St. *Peter* and St. *Paul* at *Weremouth* and *Gyrwi*, memorable for the education of Ven. *Bede* ; and another at *Whitby*, founded by St. *Hilda* the Abbess : thence passing the *Humber*, they entered *Lindsey*,<sup>5</sup> and ruined the Monastery of *Bardeney*,<sup>6</sup> famous for the Tomb of *Oswald* King of *Mercia*, who there took the Monastic habit, and there ended his days.

HAVING now spent great part of the Summer, in ravaging the Country, the two *Danish* Generals divided their forces : *Hinguar* with one division embarked on board the Fleet, which was still near the coast, and set sail for *East-Anglia*,<sup>7</sup> to carry on the war in those parts, according to their original plan ; leaving the other division under the conduct of his Brother and Colleague *Hubba*, to continue his march through *Mercia*, in order (as appeared afterwards,) to make a junction of their forces again in *East-Anglia*, and there to winter. Hitherto the *Danes* had continued their march from the borders of *Scotland*, to the middle of *Lincolnshire*, without opposition : for the consternation was every where so great and general, that most of the inhabitants fled before them, choosing rather to abandon their dwellings and save their lives by flight,

<sup>1</sup> Matth. Westmonast. ad ann.    <sup>2</sup> Ibid.    <sup>3</sup> Ibid.    <sup>4</sup> Ibid.    <sup>5</sup> A division of *Lincolnshire*, so called,  
<sup>6</sup> Ingulphi Hist. pag. 20.    <sup>7</sup> Asserii Annales, pag. 160, 162. Edit. Gale.



flight, than stand on their defence against an enemy too numerous and powerful to contend with, and too savage to trust their lives in their hands.

It was now near Michaelmas, when the *Danes* under the command of *Hubba* entered *Kesteven*:<sup>1</sup> at which time *Algar*<sup>2</sup> Earl of *Hoyland*,<sup>3</sup> with the assistance of *Wibert* and *Leofric* two of his principal Officers, had drawn some forces together; to these were added two hundred soldiers belonging to the Monastery of *Crowland*, commanded by *Toli*, then a Lay-brother of that Monastery, but formerly a brave and experienced soldier; three hundred stout young men from about *Deping*, *Langtoft* and *Baſton*; and another body of men under *Morcard* Lord of *Brunne*, consisting of his own numerous family and dependants; and five hundred more under *Osgot* Governor of *Lincoln*: these forces being joined, on the Feast of St. *Maurice* [Sept. 22.] attempted to stop the progress of the *Danes* through those parts, and attacked an advanced party of them, which they had the fortune to defeat, killing great numbers, and pursuing the rest to their camp. The same evening the main body of the *Danish* Army with all their Leaders coming up;<sup>4</sup> a great many of the Christians, fearing another engagement against such unequal numbers, deserted and went off in the night. *Algar* however, and the rest of the Officers resolving to stand their ground, the next day drew up their men in order of battle; and considering the smallness of their number, had posted themselves so advantageously that they withstood the force of the whole *Danish* Army, warding off the arrows of the enemy with their shields, and with their pikes resisting the efforts of the horse, the greatest part of the day. At length the *Danes* finding their attempts to dislodge them unsuccessful, suddenly feigned a flight, and were immediately pursued, in a disorderly manner, by the Christian Army, against the advice and command of their Officers, into an open field; where the *Danes* made a stand, and rallying their forces, overpowered them by numbers, and put almost all of them to the sword: the Officers in the mean time seeing that all was lost, retreated to a rising ground, and bravely defending themselves as long as they were able, at last fell among the slain: only two or three of the common men escaping into an adjoining wood, arrived early the next day at *Crowland* Abby with the news of the total defeat of the Army. This intelligence, together with their apprehension of the near approach of the *Danish* Army, confirmed by the smoke visibly ascending from the adjacent villages set on fire in the way, put the Abbot and Monks into the utmost consternation. *Theodore* Abbot of the place, immediately sent away about thirty of the Monks by boat, into the adjoining marshes, with their most valuable effects, and their relicks, books, and charters; but he himself determined, with a few of the oldest Monks, and some Children of the Monastery, whose tender years he vainly hoped might move compassion in the enemy, to stay behind and wait the event. As soon as the confusion was a little over, the Abbot and those that remained with him, putting on their sacred vestments, went all into the Church, and attended the regular Service of the Day;

<sup>1</sup> Part of Lincolnshire so called. <sup>2</sup> Ingulphi Hist. pag. 20. <sup>3</sup> Another division of Lincolnshire.

<sup>4</sup> Among these Leaders, Hinguar is reckoned by Ingulphus as one of them then present; but by the Testimony of Aſſer, who lived in those times, Hinguar had some time before set sail with the Fleet for East-Anglia, as is noted above.



Day; the Abbot himself on this occasion solemnly performed Mass: and just when the Communion was ended, the Pagan Army arrived; and some of the Soldiers immediately forced their way into the Church with *Ofkitel* one of their Leaders, who with his own hands slew the Abbot on the Altar, while the Soldiers beheaded the Monks that assisted him there: the rest seeing this, and endeavouring to make their escape, were all seized by the Soldiers, and after having been examined concerning the treasures of the Church, and put to the torture, were all killed in different parts of the Monastery. After this the Pagans returned into the Church, where they broke down all the Marble Monuments of their Saints and Benefactors, which lay enshrined round the Tomb of St. *Guthlac*, ransacking their coffins in search of treasure; but meeting only with disappointment, they swept all the bones into an heap, and set fire to the Church and all the buildings of the Monastery: this was on the 26th of September, the third day after their coming thither.<sup>1</sup>

THE next day the Pagan Army, taking what spoils they could meet with, and abundance of large and small cattle, begun their march towards *Medeshamsted* [*Peterborough*]; where finding the gates of the Monastery shut, and a considerable body of men within, who had been collected together for their defence; they immediately begun with their engines to batter the walls; and at their second attack made a sufficient breach to enter, and forced their way through it into the Monastery. In this attack *Tulba* a brother of *Hulba* [*Hubba*] was mortally wounded with a stone thrown from the wall at the entrance of the breach, and was carried off to the Tent of his brother; who was so enraged thereat, that he fell upon the Monks, and with his own hands slew all that came in his way, and the soldiers following his example soon put the rest to death, to the number of eighty three persons, besides *Hedda* their Abbot:<sup>2</sup> and to complete the desolation of the place, they begun after their usual manner to destroy every thing about them: the Altars and Monuments in the Church were broken down, the charters and writings torn to pieces, and the Church with a noble Library, and the other buildings all set on fire, which continued burning fifteen days together.

ON the 4th day after their coming to *Medeshamsted*, *Hubba* leaving the place in flames, marched his forces to *Huntingdon* and *Cambridge*, in his way towards *East-Anglia*, to join the other body of *Danes* under his brother *Hinguar*, who had some time before made a descent with the Fleet, and was committing the like ravages in that Kingdom.

IN the mean time the *Isle of Ely*<sup>3</sup> was not exempt from the common calamities of the times. This Island was by it's situation generally esteemed a place of strength and security, being encompassed on all sides with very extensive fens and morasses, usually covered with water great part of the year, which rendered it inaccessible from the country that surrounds it, except by boats. These fens however extending themselves to the Sea, and the waters forming a channel, by which they discharged them-

selves

<sup>1</sup> Ingulphi Hist. pag. 22.    <sup>2</sup> The bodies of the Abbot and these Monks, Ingulphus informs us, [Hist. Ingulphi. pag. 24.] were found among the ruins of the Monastery, by the Monks of Crowland, who interred them all in one large grave in the common cemetery near the East-end of the Church, and set up a monumental Stone over them with the effigies of the Abbot and Monks carved thereon;—which Stone is still preserved in the Library at Peterborough.    <sup>3</sup> Lib. Elien. l. i. c. 40.



selves into it, deep enough to admit any kind of ships then in use; the Island lay open and exposed on that side to any Naval invasion. This circumstance was particularly favourable to the *Danes*, whose principal object was plunder and robbery, as it gave them an opportunity, not only of landing their men, but also of having their ships in readiness to receive and carry off the spoils of the country immediately to Sea. Accordingly these Pagans by some means or other having gotten intelligence of the place, came up the river that leads to the Isle with part of their Fleet, and landed <sup>1</sup> without opposition.<sup>2</sup> The appearance of the enemy, who were discovered roving about the country soon after their landing, gave the first alarm to the inhabitants. The islanders wanted not courage and resolution to defend themselves: on the first notice of their danger, they collected their forces, and joining with their country-men who had fled thither, as to a place of refuge, (among whom were several *English* Noblemen and principal persons of the adjoining counties,) they marched towards the enemy, and vigorously repulsed them, forcing them to retire to their ships, and to quit the place. By this means they were rescued for the present from the oppression of the enemy; but did not long enjoy that repose; for the *Danes* now grown more furious and exasperated with the repulse they had met with, returned not long after with a much greater number of soldiers, under the conduct of one of their Kings,<sup>3</sup> and again landed on the Isle. The success that the Islanders had met with in their first attack, raised their spirits to a vigorous defence; but all their efforts were vain and ineffectual against such unequal numbers; so that after a bloody fight, in which they lost abundance of men, they were totally routed, and forced to betake themselves to flight: and the *Danes* marching directly to the Monastery of St. *Etbeldreda* at *Ely*, broke their way into it, and put all the Religious to the sword, as well the Nuns as Monks, and others belonging to it, without any respect to age, sex, or condition; and after they had stripped the Monastery of every thing that was valuable, and plundered the Town, they set fire to the Church and all the buildings and houses; and went away loaded with the spoils, not only of the Town and Monastery of *Ely*, but likewise the chief effects and riches of the country round about, which the inhabitants of those parts had brought with them,<sup>4</sup> as to a place of security.

ABOUT the same time,<sup>5</sup> and probably just before they made their second attempt on the *Isle of Ely*, they burnt and destroyed a noble and famous Monastery at

*Seham*

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. <sup>2</sup> This was probably a party of Hinguar's men, sent out on purpose to make discoveries, whilst the Fleet was on the coast of East-Anglia. <sup>3</sup> Lib. Elien. lib. i. cap. 40.—The coincidence of time and other concomitant circumstances, render it highly probable, that this King was Hubba; who has that title given him by several ancient writers and particularly by our Author, [ibid. cap. 30.] and so indeed has Hinguar;—but Hinguar was too much engaged in East-Anglia, where a battle was fought about that time near Thetford, between him and King Edmund, in which neither side gained the advantage; and Hinguar retiring immediately to Thetford, was soon joined by Hubba and the forces under him, consisting of 10,000 men; [Matth. Westm. ad ann. 870.] likely, returning from the Isle of Ely. It was after this junction of their forces, that these two Leaders [Sax. Chron. ad ann. 870.] besieged K. Edmund at Hagleston, [now Hoxne or Hoxon,] where on the 20th of Nov<sup>r</sup>, he was cruelly murdered by them, being tied to a tree and shot at with arrows, and afterwards beheaded. The Danes continued all the winter in East-Anglia, and the spring following marched into the Kingdom of the West-Saxons; where they were defeated in several battles by K. Ethelred and Alfred his brother. <sup>4</sup> Ingulphi Hist. pag. 24. <sup>5</sup> W. Malmesb. de Gest. Pontif. Angl. pag. 239. Edit. Francof. 1601.



*Seham*<sup>1</sup> [now *Soham*,] in which the body of *Felix* first Bishop of the *East-Angles* was interred: <sup>2</sup> the ruins of which *Malmesbury* says, were remaining in his time.<sup>3</sup> This village is situate in that part of *Cambridgeshire* formerly belonging to *East-Anglia*, on the Eastern border of the fens without the *Isle of Ely*, where the passage into it is the shortest<sup>4</sup> and most convenient; — and by the course the *Danes* took, (after leaving *Peterborough*,) passing through *Huntingdon* and *Cambridge* towards *East-Anglia*; it is probable they made their second descent by boats from *Soham* into the *Isle of Ely*.

DURING the preceding summer, whilst the *Danes* were making those ravages in the Eastern parts of *Mercia*, *Burrhed* King of *Mercia* was engaged in defending himself against the *Britons*,<sup>5</sup> who had at the same time invaded the Western parts of his Dominions; and this was the reason that the *Danes* met with little or no opposition in their passage through his Kingdom: but on receiving intelligence of that unexpected attack, he hastened to *London*, then his capital City; and having collected a very considerable Army, he marched towards them; but came too late; for the *Danes* had then quitted those parts, and got into *East-Anglia*. Finding therefore the Monasteries every where destroyed, and the Monks and Nuns either murdered or dispersed, he seized on all the lands and revenues belonging to them; some of these he kept and annexed to his Crown; others he distributed among the soldiers of his Army.<sup>6</sup> *Ingulphus* Abbot of *Crowland*, who wrote the History of that Abby, informs us of the several Manors belonging to it, which the King took possession of at that time, and of those he gave to the principal officers of his Army; the like he also did at *Peterborough*, *Peykyrk*, *Bardeney*, and other Monasteries in those parts: and with respect to the revenues of the Monastery at *Ely*, he says, ‘*Beorhredus Rex, — totam Helyensem Insulam fisco suo applicavit;*’ The King applied the whole *Isle of Ely* to his own proper treasury; that is, he took it as an Escheat, and annexed it to his Crown. We are to understand this, not of the lands, but of the Jurisdiction; in the same sense as when our Kings formerly granted whole Counties;<sup>7</sup> in which Grants, the government of them only, and the profits thence arising, are understood to be conveyed, and not the very property of the lands. The whole *Isle of Ely*, as a County, Principality, or Earldom, contained 600 Hides of land; the Government and Jurisdiction whereof, had been settled by *St. Etheldreda* on her Monastery; but how much land the Church was in possession of within that district or territory, does not appear. However we find the King took into his hands the whole revenues of the Monastery, which thenceforth became vested in the Crown;<sup>8</sup> and so continued till the next Century; when *K. Edgar* on refounding the Monastery, restored also the Jurisdiction, as will more fully appear, when we come to that event.

*The*

<sup>1</sup> *Seham*.] ‘*Hic locus ad introitum Insulæ de Ely dicitur esse, ubi Monasterium magnum et famosum fuit.*’ *Lib. Elen. MS. lib. i. cap. 6.*    <sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*—*Hist. Ramesiens. cap. 82. Edit. Gale.*

<sup>3</sup> *W. Malmesb. ut supra, pag. 237.*    <sup>4</sup> The distance from *Soham* to *Ely* is about 5 miles, 2 of which only are fenny ground; *Stuntney* an Island about 3 miles in circumference, being situate in the midst of the fens between them.    <sup>5</sup> *Ingulphi Hist. pag. 25. Edit. Gale.*    <sup>6</sup> — ‘*Quasdam terras stipendiariis militibus distribuit, quasdam sibi confiscavit,*’ says *Ingulphus Hist. pag. 25.* — Probably these *Milites Stipendiarii*, held their lands by much the same kind of tenure, as was afterwards called *Knights-Service*.

<sup>7</sup> See *Selden’s Titles of Honour. part ii. ch. 5.*    <sup>8</sup> — ‘*Sicque postea per destinationem Regiæ forti fisco locus additus erat.*’ *Hist. Elen. per Gale Edit. pag. 464.* — ‘*Locus usque ad tempora gloriosi Regis Edgari Regio fisco serviebat.*’ *Lib. Elen. MS. lib. ii. cap. 1.*



*The State of the Church of ELY, till the Restoration of the Monastery,  
by King EDGAR.*

AFTER the destruction of St. *Etheldreda's* Monastery at *Ely*, in the manner before related, the Church and all the buildings continued some years in ruins, and the place destitute of divine service. This indeed was the fate of most of these religious houses in the Kingdom, and particularly in *Northumberland*, and *Mercia*, and *East-Anglia*, where the *Danes* had made the greatest havock and destruction among them: and whether it proceeded from the dread of an enemy, that had show'd a more than ordinary spite and malignity against these houses of religion; or from a prevailing dislike and impatience of that strict discipline observed in them; <sup>1</sup> — certain it is, that about that time the monastick way of living fell into general neglect and disuse: many of the Monasteries destroyed by the *Danes* were utterly deserted and never rebuilt; and those which were repaired, soon after came into the possession of the secular Clergy. With respect to the Monastery at *Ely*, our Historian informs us, <sup>2</sup> that a few years after it's destruction, eight of the Clerks, who had been plundered, returned to the place; and having repaired the Isles of the Church, as well as the circumstances of those calamitous times would permit, they set up again the publick worship of God in it. It is not indeed clear from his account, who these Clerks were; whether they had been professed Monks of the Monastery, or whether they were secular Clergy of the place: neither is it said, by what authority they took possession of the Church. But *Malmesbury* is a little more particular, and expressly says, It was by the provident care of the King of *England* and the inhabitants of the place, that these Clerks were settled there to perform the divine offices: <sup>3</sup> this probably refers to King *Alfred*, who a few years after, having expelled the *Danes*, succeeded to the Kingdom of *Mercia*, and united it to his other dominions; <sup>4</sup> and by that means also came into possession of the Principality of the *Isle of Ely*, which had been annexed to that Crown by *Burrhed* the late King. This Society or College of Seculars, consisted of Clergymen who were generally married, and lived in the Monastery with their Wives and Children in a Collegiate way, under the government of one that was their Chief or Head, and is called by our Author an Arch-Priest or President. <sup>5</sup> What the original endowment of this Society was, does not appear; — probably their chief subsistence was from the Offerings and Oblations of the people, and other customary dues of the Clergy; and perhaps they might have had some of the lands adjoining to the Monastery: though afterwards, by the grant of succeeding Benefactors, they appear to have had other possessions. King *Edred* in the year 955, gave them *Stapilford*, <sup>6</sup> and part of a Wood at *Berdfield* consisting of 3 Hides of land, and a Mill at *Dernford*, with some large pastures adjoining. *Wolstan* of *Delham*, about the same time, gave them *Stuntney*, <sup>7</sup> and a Fishery belonging to it: — and one *Ogga* of *Mildenhall*, one Hide of land at *Cambridge*. <sup>8</sup> These are all the lands that are expressly mentioned to have been given to this Society or College of secular Clergy; who continued there in succession, till the reign of King *Edgar*.

<sup>1</sup> Affer. de Rebus gest. Alfredi. <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. l. i. c. 41. <sup>3</sup> W. Malmesb. de Gest. Pontif. p. 293.  
<sup>4</sup> Ingulphii Hist. p. 27. <sup>5</sup> Archipresbyter — Præpositus. Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. c. 43. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. l. ii. c. 28.  
<sup>7</sup> Ibid. c. 18. <sup>8</sup> Ibid.



*The Restoration of the Monastery at ELY by King EDGAR.*

THE monastick way of living having been introduced into this Kingdom, on the first Conversion of the *Saxons* to Christianity; several Monasteries were erected in the Southern parts by *Augustin* and his companions; and in the Northern parts, about the same time, by the *Scotch* and *Irish* Monks; and as Christianity gained ground, so these kinds of institution kept equal pace with it, till the *Danes* first invaded the Kingdom. The confusion that these Pagans occasioned in the state, soon put a stop to the further progress of such religious societies; and the havoc and destruction they afterwards made of their houses, together with the slaughter of the inhabitants, had at length so reduced their number, that when King *Edgar* came to the throne, there were few of them remaining; by far the greatest part of them lay in ruins, and their revenues were either dispersed, or in possession of the secular Clergy.

*Edgar* succeeded to the Imperial Crown of all *England*, in 959; <sup>1</sup> the Kingdom was united under one Head, and in a more peaceable and flourishing state, than it had been for above two Centuries past: the foreign *Danes* were quiet, and awed by those numerous ships of war that had been raising from King *Alfred's* time, (who first begun to increase the naval strength of this Kingdom,) made no more attempts to invade the coasts; and those *Danes* that had settled in *Northumberland*, *East-Anglia*, &c. submitting to his government, were permitted to live quietly in their habitations.

*Dunstan* Bishop of *London* and *Worcester*, was promoted by the King, in the first year of his reign, to the See of *Canterbury*: he was the King's chief Minister, and in high favour with him; <sup>2</sup> and having been educated a Monk, was zealous for advancing that kind of life, and restoring it to its former splendor: — to this end, he used his interest with the King in promoting those of his own order in the Church; and at his recommendation, *Oswald* who had been a Monk in the Monastery of *Fleury* in *France*, succeeded him in the Bishoprick of *Worcester*; <sup>3</sup> and *Ethelwold* another Monk and Abbot of *Abingdon* in *Berkshire*, was advanced to the See of *Winchester*.<sup>4</sup> It was chiefly owing to the influence these three Prelates had with the King, that inquiry was made into the state of the Monasteries destroyed by the *Danes*, and a resolution taken to restore them: he gave them a Commission in particular to remove the Seculars that had got possession of several Monasteries in *Mercia*, and to place Monks in their room: <sup>5</sup> and afterwards enlarged that Commission, which was directed to all the Bishops throughout *England*, to do the like in their Cathedrals and the larger Monasteries.<sup>6</sup> In consequence of this order, *Oswald* first ejected the secular Canons from his own Cathedral of *Worcester*, and *Ethelwold* from *Winchester*; many old Monasteries were repaired, and the lands and revenues formerly belonging to them, were restored by the King's authority; and several new ones erected in many parts of the Kingdom.

IN the old *English* Monasteries every Founder, Abbot, or chief Governor had formerly given Rules and Orders for the government of their respective Houses, as they thought proper; so that there were almost as many distinct Orders and Rules for the Monks,

<sup>1</sup> Matth. Westm. et Floren. Wigorn. ad annum.    <sup>2</sup> Matth. Westm. et Floren. Wigorn. ad annum 959.    <sup>3</sup> Ibid. ad annum 960.    <sup>4</sup> Ibid. ad annum 963.    <sup>5</sup> Floren. Wigorn. et Chron. de Mailros, ad annum 969. — Monast. Angl. vol. i. pag. 140, a, 33.    <sup>6</sup> Matth. Westm. ad ann. 969.



Monks, as there were religious Societies in the Kingdom. A reformation in that respect was judged expedient; and therefore new regulations were now begun. The *Benedictine* Rule was held in greatest esteem by these Reformers; and that Rule, as taught and professed in the Monastery of *Fleury* in *France*, had been procured by *Ethelwold* when he was Abbot of *Abingdon*, who had sent over one of his Monks for it;<sup>1</sup> and the King had given him the Manor of *Sudburn* in *Suffolk*, on condition of his translating it out of Latin into English.<sup>2</sup> — This Rule was made the basis of those Regulations; and a Constitution established in a Synod held at *Winchester*, and confirmed by the King, which all Monasteries were enjoined to observe.<sup>3</sup>

THERE were about this time two Foreigners of distinction at Court,<sup>4</sup> *Sigedwold* a Bishop and Native of *Greece*, and *Thurstan* a Nobleman of *Danish* extraction, who had some expectations from the King. It happened that they were competitors for one and the same thing; being each of them desirous of obtaining a Grant of the Principality of the *Isle of Ely*, then in the King's hands; and had severally presented their petitions on that head; with a view to the secular profits of the place. During this contest, *Wolstan* of *Delham* a Privy-Counsellor, and Sheriff of the County of *Cambridge*; who had the custody of the *Isle* under the King, thought proper to interpose; and represented to the King the inexpediency of making such a Grant: and gave him an account of the circumstances of the place; the once flourishing state of the Monastery founded there by St. *Etheldreda*, and the present condition of the Church, that belonged to it; he also informed him of the Body of St. *Etheldreda* and other holy relicks still remaining in the Church; with other particulars relating to the History of it. Whereupon the King laid aside the thoughts of making any grant, to *Sigedwold* or *Thurstan*; and sending for *Ethelwold* Bp. of *Winchester*, told him he intended to restore the Monastery, and to settle a Convent of Monks there, to perform divine Service in the Church, and to preserve the holy Relicks; and would take upon himself the charge of providing lands and revenues sufficient for their maintenance and support; — only desired his advice and assistance in bringing his design to effect; and so left it to him to conduct the whole, as he should judge proper.

THE Bishop readily embracing the occasion, undertook the management of the affair, and according to his instructions, immediately set about it: and having provided a number of Monks, gave orders for repairing the Church, and other buildings of the Monastery, and erecting several new offices for their habitation. — On his return, he agreed with the King, for the surrender of the whole district of the *Isle of Ely*, by way of purchase and exchange, for the use of the intended Monastery; who gave him his Royal Charter; by which it appears, that the King, in consideration of 60 Hides of land, 100l. of Money paid down, and 1 Crucifix of Gold given him; and of the Bishop's having undertaken to provide a number of Monks to supply the ancient Monastery of St. *Etheldreda*; — did surrender the whole district of the *Isle of Ely*, 20 Hides of land within the same, all at that time parcel of the royal estate, and subject to his Treasury, with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging, with the dignity and soke of

<sup>1</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 165. <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 37. <sup>3</sup> This Rule is called, *Regularis concordia Anglicæ Nationis Monachorum ac Sanclimonialium*; and is published by Mr. Selden in his *Spicilegium*, at the end of *Edmerus*. <sup>4</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 2.



of the two Hundreds within the Isle, and five Hundreds <sup>1</sup> in *Wichlax* within the province of the *East-Angles*; with the power and authority of Trying all Causes; also the Fines and Forfeitures for transgression of the Laws in all secular Causes, in all the Lands and Manors that do now belong to the Monastery, or that shall hereafter belong to it, either by purchase, gift, or other lawful acquisition; also the fourth part of the profits of the County of *Grantacester* [Cambridge;] <sup>2</sup> and also the villages of *Meldeburn*, *Earmingsford* and *Northwold*; and 10,000 *Eles* part of the royal revenues, due from the village of *Wyllan*: — for the endowment of the Monastery at *Ely*, for the maintenance and support of the Monks, and to supply them with necessary food and clothing. — This is the substance of King *Edgar's* Charter; which is now, and ever since that time hath been the ground of that temporal power given to the Church of *Ely*, and at this day vested in the Bishop; though it is certain it had originally been given to the Church and Monastery of *Ely*, by St. *Etheldreda*; but on the destruction of that Monastery by the *Danes*, was resumed by the Crown, and after 100 years restored again to the Church by King *Edgar*. The Charter is dated at the Royal Village of *Wlfamere*,<sup>3</sup> in the year of our Lord 970, the 13th of Indiction, and the 13th of the King's Reign; not privately and in a corner, but in the most publick manner, and under the Canopy of heaven, (as the Charter expresses it,) in the presence of the King, the Queen, and all the Bishops and Great Men of the Kingdom, then and there assembled, whose Names are subscribed thereunto, as usual; — and for the greater evidence and notoriety of it, it was also written and published in the *Saxon* tongue, that it might be read and understood of all.<sup>4</sup>

WHAT number of Monks this Society at first consisted of, does not appear; but the Bishop having, by virtue of a former Commission of the King, taken possession of the Site of the Monastery; the Monks were introduced, and the Abbot appointed, before the King gave his Charter. As for the Secular Clergy, who were in possession of the Church before; such of them as chose to take the habit and conform to the Rule, were permitted to continue there; and the rest were dismissed.

## A B B O T S.

**B**RITHNOTH, Prior of the Church of *Winchester*,<sup>5</sup> was by the King appointed the first Abbot of *Ely*, and received Benediction accordingly from the hands of *Dunstan* A.Bp. of *Canterbury*, and *Ethelwold* Bishop of *Winchester*. He is commended for his great temperance and sobriety, and his diligence in promoting the spiritual welfare, together with the secular advantages of his Abby.<sup>6</sup> He spared no pains in keeping up exact discipline among the Monks; and at his first coming hither, set about repairing all the buildings of the Monastery, and erected several new offices<sup>7</sup> for the accommodation of his Monks. And particularly, being supplied by the munificence

<sup>1</sup> These are the Hundreds of Plomesgate, Wilford, Thridling, Carleford, Colnes, and Loes in Suffolk; now called St. Etheldreda's Liberties. <sup>2</sup> *gr̃nt̃acester*, as in the Saxon translation annexed to the Charter. — See pag. 60. note 4. <sup>3</sup> Perhaps Fulmere near Windsor. <sup>4</sup> See the Charter in the Appendix. <sup>5</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 3. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. cap. 6. <sup>7</sup> Ibid.



nificence of the King, with the assistance of the Bishop of *Winchester*, he applied himself with great zeal to perfect again the Church<sup>1</sup> that had formerly been ruined by the *Danes*: those parts of it that were so much decayed by time as to have fallen down, he rebuilt; and by constant application, and much labour and expense, he finished all the stone-work, in less time than could well have been expected; and afterwards completing the Roof, which had been quite destroyed by the fire, the Church was so thoroughly repaired in all parts, that it appeared on the whole no less splendid and elegant than when it was first built.<sup>2</sup> As soon as the Church was finished, *Dunstan*, A.Bp. of *Canterbury*, was intreated by the Bishop of *Winchester* and Abbot of *Ely* to perform the rites of Dedication: the time fixed was the Day after the *Purification* of the blessed Virgin *Mary*: On which day the Archbishop being come, and attended by many of the Bishops and Pastors of Churches, the Solemnity began with blessing all the Offices of the Monastery: then an account in writing of the place, and benefactions bestowed on it by the Faithful, and also the Foundation Charter containing the possessions, privileges and immunities granted to it by King *Edgar*, being produced and publicly read; they confirmed them all, as well by their own, as the King's authority. Next they proceeded to the Dedication of the Church, the East-end of which they dedicated to St. *Peter*, and the South-side of it to the honour of the blessed Virgin *Mary*; celebrating the joyful Day in praising God with Hymns and Confessions, according to the rites used at the Dedication of *Solomon's Temple*; and divine Service being ended, they returned to spend the rest of the Day in gladness and feasting, which continued seven days; and then every one departed to his own home. — It is remarked by our Author, on this occasion of repairing the Church, that the Body of St. *Etheldreda* had lain all the time, from her first translation, in her Marble Coffin near the High Altar, just where St. *Sexburga* her Sister had placed it; and there it was ordered to remain unremoved; no one presuming to open the Coffin to inspect the body, in reverence to her, being forewarned of such dangerous presumption, by several examples, recorded in her History, of those who had at any time attempted it.

THE Endowment the King had made to the Church by his foundation Charter, was only part of his benefactions to it; he intended a further provision afterwards; and according to his promise to allow the Monks a liberal maintenance, also to enable them to carry on their buildings, and for their other necessary occasions. He gave them the large and extensive Manor of *Hetfeld*,<sup>3</sup> [*Hatfield* in Hertfordshire] abounding in woods, and estimated at 40 Hides of land; and the village of *Derham* [*East-Dere-*

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 52.    <sup>2</sup> '— Ac deinde tectis reparatis, quæ igne fuerant consumpta; templum rursus ædificatum, non minus eximium aut eminens quam prius apparuit.' Ibid. — By our Author's account, it is probable the chief damage done to the Church by the Danes, was in the Roof, which was burnt down: the outward walls only wanted to be repaired, or partly to be rebuilt; but it is likely the Stone-work, Pillars, and Arches of the Nave had received little damage from the fire, being built very strong and firm, and so remain to this time. See Plate IV. — A more particular account of these remains will be given afterwards; when we come to a Survey of them, and the Fabric of the present Cathedral Church.    <sup>3</sup> By a survey of this Manor taken in the time of Hugh Norwold Bp. of *Ely*, temp. Henr. 3. it contained 2260 Acres of Land, in Arable, Pasture and Woods; of which 1200 were the Bishop's Demain Lands; the rest in common.



*Dereham*,] in *Norfolk*, with all it's appendages.<sup>1</sup> He also encouraged the Bishop and Abbot to make large purchases of lands and manors in the Isle and adjacent Counties; and probably supplied them in a great measure with the means to do it; as seems to be intimated by *Malmesbury*.<sup>2</sup> Though the value and quantity of those Estates that were given to the Church of *Ely* within a few years after it's re-establishment by King *Edgar*, cannot now be estimated with any great exactness; yet it may not be improper to mention some of the particulars, by which a judgment may be formed of the state of it at that time, and it's gradual advancement, by further purchases and large benefactions of many pious and devout persons; till at length it became, some little time before the Conquest, one of the richest Abbies in the Kingdom.

THE principal Estates purchased by the Bishop of *Winchester* and Abbot *Brithnoth* within the Isle of *Ely*, for the further endowment of the Abby, were these: *Lindune*,<sup>3</sup> with it's appendants of *Hille*, and *Hederham*, [now *Hadenham*,] estimated at 10 Hides of land; — 5 Hides in *Wilbertune*; — 9 Hides, 24 acres of land, and 2 Fisheries, in *Stretbam*; — 6 Hides in *Dunbam*, besides 2 Hides given them by one *Sivertb* of that place; — 300 acres, and other parcels of ground in *Wichford* and *Walde*; <sup>4</sup> — One *Wlfius* and his Wife, and their Son *Alfius*, gave to God and St. *Etheldreda*, 3 Hides of land in *Suttune*; — 1 Hide, 6 acres of land, 1 Fishery let annually for the rent of 1000 *Eles*, and a moiety of a Mere called *Weremere*, and all the Fens belonging to it, in *Dudington* and *Wimilington*, &c. — All the estates procured and purchased within the Isle of *Ely*, in the time of Abbot *Brithnoth*, consisted of 60 Hides of land. — Without the Isle, the following Estates and Manors were gained to the Abby: — 1 well-built Farm and 100 acres of land, and a Fishery at *Cambridge*; the Manor of *Haukeston* and *Neweton*, containing 7 Hides and an half of land; — the Manor of *Suafbam*; — the 3d part of a Wood at *Dullingham*; — Duke *Brithnoth*, a great friend to the Monks in general, and particularly to the Church of *Ely*, (whose large benefactions to it, we shall have occasion to mention afterwards,) gave to the Abby 2 Hides of land in *Horningesea*; — the Lady *Ælftræda* gave to St. *Etheldreda* 5 Hides in *Holand* in *Essex*, which the Abbot soon after exchanged with the Church of St. *Paul's London*, for 4 Hides and an half at *Middleton* or *Milton*, near *Cambridge*; and the Abbot of *Ely* procured also 2 Hides more in the same village. In *Suffolk*, the Bishop gave to the Monks the Manor of *Sudburn*, which King *Edgar* had granted him for translating the Rule of St. *Benedict* into the *Saxon* or *English* tongue; and procured for them of the King, 10 Hides of land, and 2 Mills in *Stoke* near *Ipswich*; — there were also purchased 5 Hides in *Brandune* and *Liveremere*; 1 Hide in *Chippenham*; 3 Hides at *Woodbridge*; and 2 Hides at *Eye*, all these in *Suffolk*; — the Manor of *Bluntesbam* in the County of *Huntingdon*; and

<sup>1</sup> The Hundred of *Midford* in which this village is situate, came into possession of the Church of *Ely* at this time; but whether as an appendage to this Manor, or by some other grant, I cannot say.

<sup>2</sup> *De Gest. Pontif. Angl.* pag. 244. <sup>3</sup> The name of *Lindune*, where was formerly the principal site of the Town, is hardly known but by a part of it still called *Lindune-End*; and *Hadenham* formerly only an appendage to it, has so far gained the ascendant, that the village is hardly known by any other name: *Hille* is still in being, and consists of only a few scattered houses, called *Hill-Row*.

<sup>4</sup> *Walde* might probably have been a Hamlet at that time; but is only known at this day, by some arable and pasture lands near *Wichford* called the *Wold*: And *Wichford* was a more considerable place than now, being the Hundred-Town for that part of the Isle.



—and *Berlea* in *Hertfordshire*.—To these may be added the Priory of *Eynulvesbury* or *Eynsbury* in *Huntingdonshire*, a Cell<sup>1</sup> belonging to the Abby of *Ely*. There had formerly been a Monastery there, of which *St. Neot* is said to have been Founder; but that having been destroyed by the *Danes*, *Ethelwold* Bp. of *Winchester* restored it, among other religious Houses, at the instance of one *Leofric* and his Wife *Leofleda*, and made it subordinate to the Abby of *Ely*.<sup>2</sup> It was endowed with 2 Hides of land in the said village, 6 Hides at *Weresly*, and 9 at *Gamlingay*. The above particulars may suffice for a general account of the Endowment of the Church of *Ely*, soon after it's re-establishment by King *Edgar*; which cannot now be reduced to any great exactness.

THERE was an affair that engaged the attention both of the Bishop and Abbot at this time, and which was thought a matter of great importance. It was no small part of the religion of that age, especially with the Monks, to pay great veneration to the Bodies and Relicks of Saints and Confessors, and other holy persons deceased; imagining them to add a kind of sanctity to the places where they were interred, or their remains deposited: This opinion gave frequent occasion to the founding of Churches, and forming religious Societies on purpose to attend on them, and to take care to preserve them with due reverence and honour; and often was the motive for removing and translating such Relicks to religious houses that were already founded, for the same reason; and an acquisition of that kind was thought deserving of regard.—The King had lately conferred on the Abby of *Ely* the village of *Derham* with all it's appendages, where the body of the Virgin *St. Withburga* was preserved in the Church by the people of the place.—*St. Withburga*<sup>3</sup> was Sister of *St. Etheldreda*, and the youngest Daughter of *Anna* King of the *East-Angles*; in her infancy she was sent to nurse at a village belonging to the King her Father called *Holkam*, where she lived some years; the place was sometime called *Withburgstowe*,<sup>4</sup> and a Church built in memory of her. On the death of her Father, A.D. 654,<sup>5</sup> she removed to *Derham* another village in the same County, about 20 miles distant; where affecting a retired and religious life, she founded a Monastery of Nuns, over which she presided a considerable time; how long, is not mentioned; only that when she died, she was buried there in the Church-yard;<sup>6</sup> and after several years, her body being found, it is said, entire and without corruption, was removed into the Church; where it was preserved with great care by the people of the place, and continued there to the time of King *Edgar*, who annexed the village and all it's appendants, to the Abby of *Ely*.—The Bp. of *Winchester* and our Abbot were very desirous of getting possession of her body, in order to translate it to *Ely*; and had obtained the King's licence for that purpose:—they thought it advisable however, to proceed with caution, as it was likely that the inhabitants of

the

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 29.   <sup>2</sup> This Priory continued to be a Cell to the Abby of *Ely*, till it was violently taken away by Earl *Gilbert* of *Clare*, in the time of the siege of the Isle of *Ely*, by *William* the Conqueror; the *Ely* Monks were then expelled; and soon after other Monks introduced from *Bec* in *Normandy*. Ibid.   <sup>3</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 53.—*Monast. Angl.* Vol. ii. pag. 83.   <sup>4</sup> This Village however has since recovered it's ancient name of *Holkam*; but I find the Church there is dedicated to *St. Withburga*. See *Eton's Thesaur.* 4to. pag. 209.   <sup>5</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. i. c. 2.   <sup>6</sup> The memory of this Virgin Saint is preserved there particularly by a famous Well, which is said to have sprung up in the very place where she was at first buried; and may be seen at this day;—it was formerly called *St. Withburga's Well*, but is now corruptly called *St. Winifred's*.



the place would not easily part with so valuable a treasure without resistance, if their design should have been publickly known; and therefore it was concluded, to carry their design into execution with as much secrecy as the circumstances of such an affair would admit.—On the day appointed, the Abbot and some of the most active and prudent of the Monks, attended by the servants of the Abby all well-armed, set out on their journey; and on their arrival at *Derham* were received by the inhabitants with great respect, who imagined they were come thither only to take possession of the place; without suspecting any further design. The Abbot on this occasion held a Court for the administration of justice in the usual manner; and afterwards invited the people to a feast; having before-hand concerted measures for the carrying on his design. At the time fixed, the Abbot and the Monks took occasion to withdraw from the company in the hall; and immediately repaired to the Church, under colour of performing their regular devotions, but in reality to prepare matters for carrying their plan into execution. Night coming on, the company in the hall having spent the day in feasting, retired by degrees, every one to his rest; whilst the Monks were employing themselves in the Church, in forcing open the tomb and inspecting the body of *St. Withburga*, which having carefully viewed,<sup>1</sup> they closed up the Coffin, and got every thing in readiness for carrying it off. About the middle of the Night, taking the Coffin in which the body of the Saint was inclosed on their shoulders, they conveyed it to a carriage that was provided for that purpose, the servants of the Abbot being placed as guards round about the carriage to defend it: and in this order they set forward towards *Brandon*, a village about 20 miles distant, where there is a small navigable river leading towards the *Isle of Ely*; and on their arrival there, they found some boats that were waiting for them, and immediately embarked with their treasure, and set sail.—In the mean time the inhabitants of *Derham* having discovered that the Body of *St. Withburga* was carried off by the Monks, the alarm was given, and the Towns-men came flocking together; all agreed to pursue them, and, if possible, to recover the prey: so arming themselves with whatever they could readily meet with, they made the best of their way to *Brandon*; but were too late; for the Monks were gone off, and had proceeded a considerable way down the river: however, dividing themselves into two companies, each party taking a different side of the river, they marched forward, and at length overtook them; but, not being provided with boats, could not come at them: so that after spending some time in vain threats and reproaches, till they were tired, and finding it to no purpose, they were forced to give over the pursuit, and return home again; leaving the Monks to continue the rest of their voyage without any further molestation. They landed safely the same day at a place called *Fidbrithfeie*,<sup>2</sup> where they were received with great joy and triumph by all sorts of people, who came thither with the Monks and Clergy to meet them; and the Body of *St. Withburga* being put into an herse, was thence conveyed by land to *Ely*, and with solemn procession and singing praises to God, was deposited in the Church next to *St.*

*Ethel-*

<sup>1</sup> Her body is said to have been found at this time quite perfect and free from all signs of corruption. Lib. Elien. lib. ii. cap. 53. <sup>2</sup> Now called Turbutiea, about a Mile from the Church.



*Etheldreda*, *St. Sexburga*, and *St. Ermenilda*. — This memorable Translation of *St. Withburga's* Body from *Derham* to *Ely*, was on the 8th of the Ides of July,<sup>1</sup> in the year of our Lord 974.

THE Monks of *Ely* were now in possession of the Bodies of four celebrated Saints, *Etheldreda*, *Sexburga*, *Ermenilda*, and *Withburga*; each of them enshrined in separate tombs, and orderly placed at the East-end of the Church: and as the Abbot had a great veneration for them, and loved splendor and magnificence in the house of God, he caused the Images<sup>2</sup> of these Saints to be made of silver, and adorned with gold and precious stones, and to be set up, two on the right hand, and two on the left, near the great Altar. The Bishop of *Winchester*<sup>3</sup> also gave several costly ornaments and coverings for the Altar, besides a great quantity of gold and silver plate, and furnished the Choir with rich Copes, one of them in particular adorned with a deep gold fringe for the Precentor, to be used on the principal Festivals, and other solemn occasions. And the King, among other things, gave variety of rich vestments for the use of the Monks at divine service, and his own royal robe of purple embroidered with gold; + to these gifts, he added moreover some Relicks of Saints, out of his own Chapel, for the greater sanctification of the place; and as an additional mark of his favour, and in further confirmation of the Liberties of the Church, he restored the Crucifix of gold, that the Bishop had given him in part of the purchase of the *I Isle of Ely*; which, together with a Book of the Four Gospels richly ornamented, he freely offered on the Altar of *St. Etheldreda*.<sup>5</sup>

THE Abbot after his promotion to that office, attended with great assiduity and application all the affairs of the Abby, without an assistant; and this he continued to do for some time: but multiplicity of business both at home and abroad, made it at length necessary for him to have a coadjutor.<sup>6</sup> *Leo* one of his Monks, with the consent and approbation of the rest of the brethren, was appointed to that charge;<sup>7</sup> which he executed with great commendation; for he was very diligent and industrious, and always studied the general good of the Society. One of his undertakings in particular, that contributed greatly to the ease and security of the Church, in the possession of their Liberties and Immunities, was the settling the limits and boundaries of the *I Isle of Ely*; which till that time had not been so clearly defined, but that disputes had arisen about them, to the great disquiet and detriment of the Monks. In order to accomplish this design, *Leo* procured a meeting of the principal inhabitants of the *I Isle*, and of the adjoining Counties, in which the boundaries of the *I Isle*, and possessions of the Church were discussed, and settled to the satisfaction of all parties; and were afterwards confirmed by the authority of King *Edgar*: And when these limits were measured and marked out, he caused a deep ditch to be made in the midst of those watry and impassable fens, for the boundary of the *I Isle* on one side, which

was

<sup>1</sup> The 8th of July, the day of her Translation to *Ely*; and the 17th of March, the day of her decease, were observed as high Festivals in the Church of *Ely*. <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 6. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. cap. 3. <sup>4</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 50. <sup>5</sup> Ibid. cap. 4. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. cap. 54. <sup>7</sup> Hence it should seem, that the office of Prior, (who was in course the Abbot's Substitute, and had the chief care of the House next to the Abbot, and governed in his absence,) was not yet regularly settled and established in our Abbies.



was called *Abbot's-delf*,<sup>1</sup> and afterwards *Bishop's-delf*, to remain a standing evidence and memorial of it to future ages.<sup>2</sup> 'And these, says my Author,<sup>3</sup> are the limits of 'the *Isle of Ely*, viz. from *Cotingelade* to *Littleporte*, or to *Abbot's-delf*, 7 miles in 'length; — and from *Chirchewere* to *Stretham-mere*, 4 miles in breadth: — but 'the boundaries of the two Hundreds that of ancient time belonged to *Ely*, are 'known to be of greater extent, viz. from the middle of the Bridge at *Tyd*, to 'Upwere; and from *Bishop's-delf*, to the River near *Burgh* [*Peterborough*] called the 'Nen.'—To make this description more clear, it is proper to observe, that the *Isle of Ely*, strictly speaking, is that large tract of high-ground encompassed with fens, that were formerly overflowed with water, of which *Ely* is the principal place, and gives name to the whole; in which are included also the villages of *Stretham* and *Tbetford*, *Wilburton*, *Hadenham*, *Sutton*, *Mepal*, *Witcham*, *Wentworth*, *Witchford*, *Dounham*, and *Chetisham*, — making collectively but one Island; — *Littleport*, *Coveney*, and *Stuntney*, though sometimes reckoned part of it, were in their original state, disjoined by small intervals of such fenny ground, and therefore were distinct Islands of themselves; — this is that tract of ground, which in the above description is said to be 7 miles in length, and 4 in breadth: — But the two Hundreds belonging to the *Isle*, extend from the Bridge at *Tyd* on the North, to *Upwere* on the South, 28 miles in length; — and from *Abbot's-delf* on the East, to the river *Nen* near *Peterborough* on the West, 25 miles in breadth; — this whole district, in which are included, (besides the *Isle of Ely* properly so called,) several considerable towns and villages, as *Wisbech*, *Whittlesey*, *Dodington*, *March*, *Leverington*, *Newton*, *Chatteris*, &c. is now called the *Isle of Ely*, and is as a County Palatine, subject to the Bishop of *Ely*.

ANOTHER memorable work of *Leo*, that is recorded to his praise, was the improvement he made in the ground belonging to the Abby nearly adjoining to the Church, which he laid out into gardens and orchards in a very elegant taste, and planted them with variety of the choicest fruit-trees, in such regular and beautiful order, as contributed not a little to the ornament of the place, as well as to the profit of the Society: for he was always doing something for the common good of them all; and left behind him a memorial, that kept up his name several ages after he was dead; which was an extraordinary and curious crucifix of silver, called by his name, Prior *Leo's* Crucifix;<sup>4</sup> on which the image of our Lord was hollow, and so contrived as to contain the relics of *St. Vedastus* and *St. Amandus*.

BUT to return to our Abbot *Brithnoth*; after he had governed this Abby about 11 years, and seen it in a flourishing and prosperous state, and daily advancing to greater degrees of honour and riches; he was suddenly taken away by an untimely death, and died a Martyr by the hands of *Elfrida* Queen Dowager of King *Edgar*, who had also murdered her Son-in-law King *Edward*, to make way for her own Son *Ethelred* to the throne. The sum and substance of what I find related of that unhappy event,<sup>5</sup> is

<sup>1</sup> The Ditch that crosses the road leading from Stuntney to Soham, having a bridge over it called *Delf-bridge* (rebuilt of brick by the Dean and Chapter of Ely, last Summer, 1765.) is the utmost boundary of the Isle of Ely on that side, and is without doubt, the same that was formerly called *Abbots-delf*. <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 54. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. <sup>4</sup> 'Crux Leonis Præpositi.' ibid. <sup>5</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 56.—Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 606.



is to the following effect; In the year of our Lord 981, the Abbot had occasion to attend the Court of King *Ethelred* on some business relating to the Church; and in his journey thither, on this side *Geldedune*, going through a wood called the *New Forest*, he happened to turn out of the common road; and there he discovered the Queen under a tree, employed in acts of Sorcery.<sup>1</sup> Struck with horror at the sight, he turned away, and continued his journey; though not without having been perceived by the Queen. On his arrival at the Court, he was honourably received by King *Ethelred*; and having finished his business, was preparing to return: but thought he could not decently leave the Court, without waiting on the Queen-Mother, however he detested her wicked and abandoned life. It happened that the Queen was quite alone, when she received notice of the Abbot's coming, and gave orders that he should be admitted, but without any of his attendants, as she had occasion to consult him on her spiritual affairs. On the Abbot's entering the room, the Queen accosted him in an immodest manner, utterly unbecoming her character, and with fair speeches and enticing words endeavoured to induce him to a criminal familiarity with her, as fearing he might some time or other discover the wickedness he had seen. The Abbot abhorring her wicked attempts, with just indignation rejected her offers, and with great freedom took the occasion of reproving her, for her infamous and abandoned life. This honest and inflexible behaviour of the Abbot, soon raised the indignation and rage of the Queen, who calling in her servants, ordered him instantly to be slain, resolving he should not live who might one day appear a witness of her crimes; and she contrived to destroy him in such a manner, that no hurt or wound might appear on his body; directing them to heat small sharp-pointed irons in the fire, and thrust them into his body, under his arm-pits. Her orders were executed without delay; and as soon as he was dead, they all cried out, as if some sudden and unexpected misfortune had happened to them. On which the servants of the Abbot and the Monks that attended him came running in, and being told to their grief, that he had died suddenly; they, with great sorrow and lamentations, prepared to return home; and laying the body on a carriage, conveyed it to the Church at *Ely*, where it was committed to the grave, without their having perceived any wounds or marks of violence on it.—Thus died *Brithnot* the first Abbot of *Ely*, a Martyr, choosing rather to fall by the hands of violence, than to transgress the laws of God. None of his attendants presumed to cast the least reflection on the Queen or had any suspicion of her guilt: and this dark affair might have been buried with him, and for ever have been concealed from the knowledge of the world; had not the Queen herself disclosed it: for in the latter part of her life, she was brought to a deep sense of her crimes, and repentance of her detestable manner of living; and in particular openly confessed the murder of her Son-in-law King *Edward*, in order to raise her own Son *Ethelred* to the throne; to expiate which murder she founded the Nunnery of *Wervell* in *Hampshire*; whither she retired, to spend the remainder of her days in penance: and there with great contrition and sorrow of heart, confessed, among her other wicked deeds, the cruel murder of *Brithnot* Abbot of *Ely*, in the manner before related.

<sup>1</sup> 'Reginam fortè sub quadam arbore offendit suis veneficiis vacantem.' *ibid.*



ELSIN, *Abbot II.*

ON the death of *Britnotb* the first Abbot of *Ely*, King *Ethelred* appointed ELSIN or ELSI to succeed him,<sup>1</sup> who received benediction accordingly from the hands of *Ethelwold* Bishop of *Winchester*. He was of a Noble family, and much in favour with the King,<sup>2</sup> which he took care to improve to the benefit and advantage of the Abby.

THE *Danes* and *Norwegians* begun again about this time to infest the coasts; they landed in various parts of the Kingdom, and carried on their depredations many years together, as they had formerly done, and with greater success. The weak efforts that were made to stop their progress at first, and the wrong measures taken afterwards to get rid of them, in endeavouring to purchase a peace at the expence of vast sums of money,<sup>3</sup> had a most pernicious effect, and only served to encourage them to pursue their designs; till at length they reduced the Kingdom under their dominion. — But notwithstanding the unsettled state of the Nation, the Church of *Ely* seems to have been in a flourishing condition, and was continually increasing in wealth and riches; as appears by the several Estates given to it by pious and well-disposed persons, and other occasional benefactions in the time of this Abbot. The King himself, as a mark of his favour, gave to the Monks the Village of *Littlebury*;<sup>4</sup> and granted them leave to translate the body of the holy Virgin St. *Wendreda* from the Village of *Merch* to *Ely*, which the Abbot inclosed in a Shrine of Gold adorned with precious Stones.<sup>5</sup> The Abbot also procured from the King considerable possessions in *Caddenbo*, *Stretele* and the two *Lintunes*; for confirmation of which estates to the Church, the Abbot gave the King nine pounds of the purest Gold, after the great weight of the *Normans*.<sup>6</sup>

GODWIN, Lord of the Village of *Hoo*,<sup>7</sup> being in a declining state of health, and tired of the world, was desirous of embracing the Monastic life; and sending for *Elfric* Abbot of *Ely*, requested the favour of being admitted into that Society; which was granted accordingly; in recompense for which, he offered up with himself his said Village of *Hoo*,<sup>8</sup> and confirmed it to the Church of *Ely* for the use of the Monks there for ever. *Godwin* died soon after and was buried in the Cemetery of the Monks. And *Elmer*, brother of the said *Godwin*, gave an Estate in *Hecham*,<sup>9</sup> which came to him by inheritance, to God and St. *Etheldreda*, and the other holy Virgins, by his Chirograph, attested by *Athelstan* Bp. of the *East-Angles* and others; leaving it to the Abbot and Monks to dispose of it as they thought proper.

A large accession was also made to the Church in the time of this Abbot, on the following occasion:<sup>10</sup> *Leofwin* Son of *Adulf*, a Man of great wealth, by giving way to a violent and passionate temper, to which he was naturally inclined, had involved himself in one of the most atrocious crimes:—On some account or other,

con-

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 57. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. cap. 76. <sup>3</sup> The sum of 10,000 pounds was first given to the Danes in the year 991. — 16,000 pounds in 994. — 24,000 pounds in the year 1002. — 36,000 pounds in the year 1007. — and 48,000 pounds in the year 1011. — Matth. Westm. & Flor. Wigorn ad annos. <sup>4</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 58. <sup>5</sup> Ibid. cap. 76, 77. <sup>6</sup> “ — Dedit Regi appensuram novem librarum purissimi auri, juxta magnum pondus Normannorum.” Ibid. <sup>7</sup> *Hoo* is now a Chapelry belonging to East-Dereham in Norfolk. <sup>8</sup> Ibid. cap. 69. <sup>9</sup> Ibid. cap. 70. <sup>10</sup> Ibid. cap. 60.



conceiving a sudden repentment against his own Mother, he gave her such a violent blow with a weapon he hastily caught up, as occasioned her to take to her bed, in which she continued a long time in a weak and languishing state, and the hurt she received thereby, at length occasioned her death. The horror and uneasiness of mind he was under after this unhappy accident, rendered his life extremely miserable: He consulted his spiritual guides, and those who were most skilful in the laws, what course to take in order to expiate his crime; who all advised him to make a pilgrimage to *Rome*, and there present himself before the Pope, and take his directions from him, who best knew how to enjoin a penance adequate to his crime. *Leofwin* resolved to follow their advice, and soon after set out on his journey. On his arrival at *Rome*, with all due reverence, true penitence, and contrition of mind, he visited *St. Peter's* and the holy Relicks there preserved; and afterwards having made a full confession of the heinousness of his offence before the Pope, His Holiness thought proper to enjoin him the following penance; That he should dedicate his eldest son and heir to God, in some Monastery, which he should liberally endow out of his possessions; and furthermore, for the health of his soul, give largely of his substance to the poor:—All which *Leofwin* engaged faithfully to perform to the utmost of his power: And when he returned home, he began to put in execution what he had promised; for he distributed his alms plentifully to the poor round about, and bestowed much on several religious houses:—But the fame of the Monastery at *Ely*, at that time in high repute for works of charity, hospitality, piety and devotion, induced him to have a more particular regard and affection for the place, and determined him to perform the remaining part of his penance in favour of it; by which he became one of the most considerable benefactors to this Monastery: His eldest Son *Edelmer* he here devoted to God and Religion; and with him gave the following estates, and confirmed them by his Chirograph written in the *English* tongue; namely *Cingestune*, the *Rodinges*, *Undeleia*, some lands in *Lackingbethe* called *Ofwaradale*; the 3<sup>d</sup> part of *Withlesfeye*, lands in *Esterie* and *Cotenham*; an estate in *London* called afterwards *Abbotshale*; *Glemesford*, and the fisheries at *Upstane*, and an annual rent in the royal village of *Hethfeld*, besides some other lands mentioned particularly in the aforesaid Chirograph. Afterwards, that these possessions might for ever continue in the Church, he caused *Elfin* the Abbot and the Monks to take a solemn oath, before *Wolstan* ABp. [of *York*] and a great assembly of Bishops and Abbots, and others there present, to the following effect; That whereas he had given and dedicated to God, the blessed Virgin *Mary*, *St. Etheldreda* and her holy family, the above mentioned possessions, for the redemption of his own soul, and the souls of his Wife and Parents;—they should not on any account, either for money, or reward, or by way of exchange, alienate them from the Church:—All which the Abbot and Monks promised faithfully to observe and perform; and moreover that they would for ever celebrate Masses, for him on the Monday, and for his wife and children and all his kindred on the Tuesday, in every week; and feed the poor, and clothe the naked, as directed in his last Will and Testament. *Leofwin*, as he had begun, so he persevered all his life-time in doing every thing in his power for the advantage of the Monastery; particularly he rebuilt and



and enlarged the South-side of the Church, and joined it to the rest of the building, at his own expence; and in one of the divisions of that Isle,<sup>1</sup> he built an Altar to the honour of the blessed Virgin *Mary*, and over it he made a throne, in which was placed her image of gold and silver finely wrought, as big as life, having her Son in her lap, and adorned with jewels and precious stones of inestimable value. He lived several years after, and dying in a good old age, his body was brought to *Ely*, and buried in the Church of the holy Virgin St. *Etheldreda*, whom he had made to inherit all his wealth.<sup>2</sup>

ETHELIVA,<sup>3</sup> a respectable Lady, gave to God, and St. *Etheldreda*, and her holy family in *Ely*, her Manor of *Dacstede*, [*Hadstock* in *Essex*,] and all her Relicks of Saints, by her last Will, made a little before her death, and attested by *Elfin* Abbot of *Ely*, *Leffi* one of his Monks, and several Noblemen of that County, *Brixi* her Son, and *Edytha* her Daughter.

ELFWARA,<sup>4</sup> a Widow Lady of a Noble family, very rich, and no less eminent for her piety and good works, gave by her Will to God and St. *Etheldreda*, largely of her possessions, the villages of *Brigeham*, *Hengeham*, *Wetinge*, *Ratlesden*, and *Mundeford*, and some lands in *Teodford*, with the Fisheries thereto belonging, her Chest of Relicks, two Crosses of silver and gold, and set with jewels. — Her body was brought to *Ely*, and there buried, and her Name inserted in the list of Benefactors on the holy Altar, for a perpetual memorial of her.

THE next memorable occurrence in this Abbot's time,<sup>5</sup> was the death of Duke *Brithnoth*,<sup>6</sup> a Nobleman of the first rank, and much conversant in the Court of King *Edgar*; in most of whose Charters his Name occurs as a Witness: He is celebrated by the Historians of those times for his strict engagement on the part of the Monks, to whom he was always a friend, and one of their chief supports in that contest they had with the Secular Clergy, after the death of King *Edgar*. When the *Danes* begun again to infest the coasts, he applied himself chiefly to the profession of arms, and with great zeal stood up in defence of his country against them; and the reputation he gained thereby for valour and military skill, induced many principal persons in several Counties to serve under him. It happened once, that a party of *Danes* arriving on the coasts of *Essex*, came up to *Maldon*; of which the Duke being informed, suddenly marched against them with what forces he could collect, and attacking them on a Bridge near that place, obtained a signal Victory over them; so that a few only escaped, and recovered their ships. After which he returned into *Northumberland*. It was not long after, that some of those *Danes* who had escaped the slaughter, having repaired their ships, and recruited their forces, arrived on the coast of *Suffolk*, and

having

<sup>1</sup> In uno porticu'. Ibid. — See pag. 19. note 6. <sup>2</sup> 'Allatum est corpus ejus ad Hely, atque sepul-  
'tum in ecclesia sacre Virginis Ætheldrede, quam bonorum suorum fecerat heredem.' Lib. Elien.  
MS. lib. ii. cap. 60. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. cap. 59. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. cap. 61. <sup>5</sup> Ibid. cap. 62. <sup>6</sup> He is styled by different  
Historians, Alderman, Dux, and Comes; — sometimes without any addition of place, and at other  
times with that addition. — Brithnothus Dux. Chron. Saxon. ad an. 991. Brithnothus Comes. Hist.  
Ramesiens. cap. 71. — Brithnothus Alderman. Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 33, 55. — Northanimbro-  
rum Dux. Ibid. cap. 62. — Dux Orientalium Saxonum. Matth Westm. & Flor. Wigorn. ad an. 991.  
— Dux Orientalium Anglorum. Chron. Mailros. ad an. 991. — The reason of which seems to be,  
that he had at different times the command of the forces in those several parts of the Kingdom,  
for he often fought with the Danes.



having landed their men, under the conduct of *Justin* and *Guthmund* two *Danish* chiefs, they plundered the town of *Ipswich*; and continuing their course landed again at *Malden* in *Essex*. The Duke was then with his forces in the Northern parts, and receiving intelligence of their arrival, he immediately begun his march towards them: His nearest way was by *Ramsay* Abby in *Huntingdonshire*; and when he was come nigh that place, he sent word to *Wlfi* the Abbot, that he and his company should call on him by the way, and take some refreshment at the Abby:—This Abbot, who was in his temper naturally inclined to parcimony, and over-frugal, returned for answer, 'That the place was not large enough to contain such a multitude as the Duke had with him, neither was there sufficient provision to be had there; but if he thought proper to come only with six or seven of his select friends, he would find them entertainment.' To which the Duke immediately made this short but noble reply, "Let my Lord Abbot know that I will not dine without my men, because I cannot fight without them;" and so passed on, without calling at the Abby: And continuing his march towards *Ely*, he ordered one of his attendants to go before, and acquaint *Elfin* Abbot of *Ely*, that having occasion to pass through the *Isle*, if convenient, he and his Army would sup with him that evening. The Abbot knew that the Duke was always a friend to the Monks, and a Benefactor to their Abby; and therefore received the message with the greatest pleasure, and, with the concurrence of the Monks, sent him word, "That in acts of kindness and charity, he was not deterred by any numbers, but rather rejoiced at the occasion of their coming." Accordingly the Duke came to the Abby that evening with all his Men; and they were received by the Abbot and his Brethren with the greatest joy, and all entertained in the most plentiful and sumptuous manner; infomuch that the Duke was highly pleased with the reception they met with; and thought he could never do enough to show how kindly he took it.—He was sensible they had put themselves to great expences, on his account; and resolved to make them ample amends: The next morning he came into the Chapter-house, where the Abbot and Monks were assembled for that purpose, and was at his own request admitted a member of their Society; and there addressing himself to the Abbot and Monks in the most polite manner, and with high expressions of gratitude for their noble entertainment of him and all his company; in order to give full proof of his entire satisfaction, he put them into immediate possession of these capital Manors, *Spaldewick*, *Trumpintune*, *Ratendune*, and *Hesberie*, *Seham* and *Acholt*: then declaring to them the occasion of his journey, he gave them these other Manors, namely, *Fulburne*, *Teversham*, *Impetune*, *Pampeworth*, *Crochestune*, *Fineberge*, *Tripelaue*, *Herdwic*, and *Sumersham* with all it's appendants, and likewise thirty mancs of gold, and twenty pounds of silver; on this condition, that if he should chance to be slain in battle, they should bring off his Body and bury it here; and at the same time gave the Church investiture of them all, by delivery of two Crosses of Gold, two slips of his Robe richly embroidered with gold and jewels, and a pair of finely-wrought Gloves: Then com-

mending

<sup>1</sup> The writer of *Historia Ramefisensis*, relates this piece of History, and blames *Wlfi* their Abbot for his ill-timed frugality; by which he lost the Duke's favour, who, he says, intended to have given to that Abby some of those very estates, which he afterwards gave to the Monks of *Ely*. Hist. Ramefisens. Edit. per Gale, inter xv. Scriptores. cap. 70, 71.



mending himself to their prayers, he took his leave of them, and set out to meet the enemy. The *Danes* having plundered *Ipswich*, had reembarked, and sailed to the coast of *Essex*, and landed near *Maldon*, where Duke *Brithnot* came up with them: Though he found they were greatly superior in number, he concluded however to give them battle; and begun the attack. In this engagement the Duke gave many signal proofs of military skill, and his invincible courage. The fight lasted fourteen days<sup>1</sup> together, and great numbers were slain on both sides. On the last of those days, the Duke having come to a resolution of giving one decisive blow, or of dying in the attempt; the attack was renewed with great spirit and firmness: the *Danes* were at first put into disorder, and begun to fly; but refusing courage from their manifest superiority in number, they made a stand; and uniting in one body of a wedge-like form, returned and bore down all before them; and in this conflict the Duke was slain: the *Danes* afterwards cut off his head, and carried it away in triumph, and retired to their ships. As soon as the unhappy event of this engagement was known at *Ely*, the Abbot and some of the Monks set out for the place where the battle was fought, in order to recover the body of the Duke; which having found, they returned with it to *Ely*; and having supplied the loss of the head, with one made of wax in its stead, they buried his Body in the Church, with all the honours due to so respectable a person, and their munificent Benefactor. He lived in the times of these several Kings, *Edred*, *Edwi*, *Edgar*, *Edward* the Martyr, and of *Ethelred*, in the 14<sup>th</sup> year of whose reign, and in the year of our Lord 991, he was slain by the *Danes*, as before related. — He was one of the most accomplished Noblemen of these times; eloquent in the Senate, intrepid in War; and his unbounded generosity made him popular, and much beloved by the people. As to his person, he was above the common size, and his strength of body equal to his stature: When imminent dangers threatening the publick, called him into the field; no one was more ready to obey the summons, no one gave greater proofs of the love of his country; for he died in the defence of it: He was a zealous Advocate for the Monks, whom he considered as the great support of Religion at that time, and therefore divided his vast estates among them;<sup>2</sup> but was more particularly liberal to the Church of *Ely*.<sup>3</sup>

## AFTER

<sup>1</sup> Fourteen Days,] It is probable the *Danes* were intrenched when the Duke attacked them, and that they continued so till the last day; otherwise it is difficult to account for the fight lasting so many days, without being decisive on one side or the other. <sup>2</sup> Hist. Angl. Scriptores x. — inter Evidentias Ecclesiæ Christi Cant. col. 2223. lin. 60. <sup>3</sup> In gratitude to his memory the Monks of *Ely* afterwards, in the reign of King Stephen, in the time of Nigellus Bishop, and Alexander Prier of the Church, translated his bones from the Old Conventual Church, where he was at first buried, with the bones of several other Benefactors, into the Cathedral: and they were at length immured in the North-wall of the Choir, built in the reign of King Edward 3. with painted representations of each of them, still visible, though much decayed: as appears by an entry made (seemingly in the hand-writing of that time,) in a spare leaf at the beginning of the *Old MS. Liber Eliensis*, now in the hands of the Dean and Chapter, in these words; ‘ Isti sunt Confessores Christi, quorum corpora jacent ex parte aquilonari Chori Ecclesiæ Eliensis in locellis seperatim in pariete lapideo, Wlstanus Eboracensis Archiepiscopus, Osmundus Epūs in Swetheda regione, Helfwinus Helmamensis Epūs, Elfgarus Helmamensis Epūs, Ednodus Abbas Ramysiensis Epūs Lyncolniensis, Adthelstanus Helmamensis Epūs, Brithnodus Dux Northanimbriorum Strenuissimus.’ — The Names of these Worthies are still legible over their painted Effigies; and some account of them will be given in their proper place.



AFTER the death and interment of Duke *Brithnotb*, his Relict the Lady *Elfleda*,<sup>1</sup> surrendered up her right to the Manor of *Ratendune*, which she had her life in, as part of her Dower, and her lands in *Sebam*, and *Dittune*, and one hide of land in *Chefle*, and gave them to the Church, with one Gold Chain, and a Curtain worked with the most memorable acts of her Husband's Life.

ETHELFLÉDA<sup>2</sup> her Sister, Wife of Duke *Ethelstan*, a Lady as respectable for her affluent fortunes both by inheritance and dower, as she was illustrious by birth and family connexions, after the death of her husband, continued in Widowhood, and was constantly employed in acts of piety and good works: this Lady used frequently out of devotion to visit the Tombs of St. *Etheldreda* and the other Saints in the Church of *Ely*. The great civilities she there met with, from the courteous behaviour of *Elfin* the Abbot and all the Monks, were returned by frequent presents she made them in her life-time; and when she died, she testified her regard to the Church, by giving to it, in her last Will, *Hadbam* and *Chelefbelle*, and also her part in *Dittune*, saving that she granted her Sister the Lady *Elfleda* to enjoy *Dittune* for her life, and after that to revert to the Church.

UVA,<sup>3</sup> a man of great piety and goodness, desirous of disposing of his worldly riches, so that they might become advantageous to him after this life; gave to God and Saint *Etheldreda* for ever, the Village of *Wivelingham*, and some lands in *Cotenham*: and was also a liberal Benefactor to other Churches. He confirmed all his Donations by his last Will, in which *Leofsin* Alderman, *Elfin* Abbot and the Brethren of the Church of *Ely*, were Witnesses, among many others.

OSWI,<sup>4</sup> Brother of *Uva*, and the Lady *Leofleda* his Wife, daughter of Duke *Brithnotb*, were as eminent for piety as for their high rank and amiable manners, liberal to the poor, and munificent to Churches; beloved and honoured by all orders and degrees of men: They had issue of both sexes, whom they amply provided for in the world, out of their abundant possessions; and one Son, whose name was *Alfwine*, they dedicated to God, and brought to be educated in the monastic profession in this Abby: with him they gave the village of *Steuechworth* for his clothing, and after his decease to remain for ever to the Church: they also added afterwards other possessions in *Merch*, *Chertelinge*, and *Dullingebam*, and one virgate of land in *Swasbam*. To this Deed *Elwric* [*Elfric*] A.Bp. of *Cant.* *Esfuwin* Bp. of the *Mercians*, and *Athelstan* Bp. of the *East-Angles*, *Uva* and *Ederic* Brothers of *Oswi*, were Witnesses.

EDERIC,<sup>5</sup> Brother of the above-mentioned *Uva* and *Oswi*, followed their example in munificence to the Church, and sent his Son *Adelmer* to be educated a Monk in this Abby, and with him gave *Ceaddberi* for ever to the Church.

ELFELM,<sup>6</sup> a worthy and rich Knight, who used frequently to visit the Church out of a spirit of devotion, observing the religious and devout behaviour of the Monks, had a strong affection for the place; on those occasions he usually made them various presents; and was ever ready to do them other friendly offices, being a zealous advocate for the rights and privileges of the Church. In his last sickness, when he was taking

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 63. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. cap. 64. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. cap. 66. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. cap. 67. <sup>5</sup> Ibid. cap. 68. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. cap. 73.



taking care for the spiritual welfare of himself and family, by a certain free Deed,<sup>1</sup> in which he recommends himself to the prayers and intercession of St. *Etheldreda*, he gave her for ever the village of *Wratinge*, except two hides of land.

ATHELSTAN,<sup>2</sup> Bishop of *Elmham*, a Prelate eminent for his piety and goodness, was another Benefactor to this Abby. He made a convention with Abbot *Brithnotb* and the Monks of *Ely*, which was renewed in this Abbot's time, whereby he was admitted into their fraternity; and by virtue thereof performed the Episcopal function among them, in taking the professions of the Monks, conferring holy Orders, and all other parts of his office: for this was one of the privileges enjoyed by the Church of *Ely*, always to make choice of whatever Bishop they thought proper for that purpose. — This good Bishop, as appears by his Charter, purchased with his own money the Manor of *Dringestune*, and gave it to the Church of *Ely* for ever, together with the furniture of his Chapel, namely, his Episcopal Cross, his greater Tower of silver and gold, of 20 pounds value, 1 Chalice and Paten of 10 pounds, his best Sacerdotal Vestment, 1 Censer of 5 pounds, 1 Cope for the use of the Chantor, 1 good Pall, 40 Manes of Gold, and 5 pounds every year towards clothing the Monks; his Charter concludes thus, “Moreover, whatever service else I can do you, I will do; that my fellowship may be the more acceptable to God and this holy Church, and my memory the more carefully preserved among you.” — He lived many years after this; and when he died, was brought hither, and buried in the Church according to the covenant he had made with the Abbot and Monks. He was cotemporary with *Ethelwold* Bishop of *Winchester*, in the reign of King *Edgar*; was living in the year 995; — but the exact time of his death is uncertain. His bones were afterwards removed out of the Old Conventual Church, among those of other Benefactors, into the Cathedral.<sup>3</sup>

SEVERAL considerable Estates were given to the Church, with such as were sent to the Abby to receive their education; among these was *Leofsin*<sup>4</sup> a youth of towardly parts and good disposition: on his admission here, his Parents who were of the Nobility and very rich, generously gave with him to the Church, these following possessions, *Glemesford*, *Hertberst*, *Berchinges*, *Feeltwelle*, *Scelford*, and *Snellewelle*. This *Leofsin* afterwards came to be Abbot of the Church.

ALFWIN<sup>5</sup> or *Ailwin* was another of those youths, who was educated in this Abby, and embraced the Monastick life whilst he was very young; he was of a good family, and is commended for the amiableness of his manners, sobriety of carriage, and strict observance of the rules of his Order; and became so eminent for sanctity of life, that he was afterwards advanced to the Episcopal Order, being made Bishop of *Elmham*; in which station he continued his kind regard to the place of his education, as will be taken notice of in due time. His Parents were very liberal to the Church when he was first admitted here, and gave with him *Walpole*, *Wisebeche*, *Debeham*, *Brithwelle*, and *Oddebrigge*.

## ALFGAR

<sup>1</sup> The original Deed, Charter, or Testament of *Elfelm*, containing Donations of Lands, &c. in which he gives *Wratinge* to the Church of *Ely*, &c. — and *Brichendun* to the Church of *Westminster*, &c. — is now in the Archives of the Collegiate Church of *Westminster*. *Madox's Formulæ Anglicæ*. — in Dissertation concerning ancient Charters, &c. pag. ii. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. cap. 65. <sup>3</sup> See page 85. note 3: <sup>4</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 74. <sup>5</sup> Ibid. cap. 75.



ALFGAR<sup>1</sup> or *Algar*, who had been Chaplain to St. *Dunstan* A.Bp. of *Cant.* and his Confessor, (which offices he held when St. *Dunstan* died,) was promoted to the See of *Elmbam* on the death of Bishop *Athelstan*, and was also elected by the Abbot and Monks of *Ely* to perform the Episcopal office in their Abby. Towards the latter end of King *Ethelred's* reign, he resigned his Bishoprick, and came and resided wholly in the Abby at *Ely*, to spend the remainder of his days; and there he performed the ordinary duties of his function as long as he lived, which was several years: On his resignation of his Bishoprick, King *Ethelred* promoted *Alfwine* above mentioned, one of the Monks of *Ely*, to the See of *Elmbam*. *Alfgar* dying in the year 1021, was buried in the old Conventual Church; and many years after, the Monks, out of respect to his memory, removed his bones thence, among those of their other Benefactors, into the Cathedral Church.<sup>2</sup>

DURING the reign of *Edward* surnamed the *Martyr*, his Brother *Ethelred*, then very young, came with his Mother the Queen and several of the Nobility to visit the Church of *Ely*,<sup>3</sup> on the invitation of *Ethelwold* Bishop of *Winchester*; at which time they went in procession to the Tomb of St. *Etheldreda*; and there the young Prince, who is said to have had a great love and affection for the Saint, promised in the presence of all those who were there assembled, from thenceforth to become her devoted servant. In consequence of which vow, when he afterwards came to be King, he on several occasions manifested his kindness and regard to the Church; and as a particular mark of his favour, was pleased to grant that the Church of *Ely* should hold and enjoy the Office and Dignity of Chancellor in the King's Court; the like he also granted to two other Churches, namely St. *Augustin's* in *Canterbury*, and *Glastonbury*; thus dividing the Chancellorship between the Abbots of those three Monasteries, who were to exercise the Office by turns; so as the Abbot of *Ely*, for the time being, or some Monk appointed by him, was to perform the office from *Candlemas*, four Months yearly; and the other two Abbots, four Months each, to complete the Year. This custom, it is said, obtained from the time of the restoration of the Abby, (perhaps not confirmed to the Church of *Ely*, before this Grant of King *Ethelred*,) and continued till the Kingdom was subdued by the *Normans*, when the Church was deprived of this privilege, and all its former honours.

IN the year 1016, King *Ethelred* died at *London*, after an unhappy reign of 38 years, having been almost continually engaged in war with the *Danes*. His Son *Edmund* surnamed *Ironside* was thereupon recognized King by the *Londoners* and the Nobility there present; but *Canute* King of *Denmark* by great part of the Nation. Several battles were fought that year between the competitors, and with various success; but none of them fell so heavy on the *English*, as the battle at *Assendun*, on St. *Luke's* day, in which almost all the Nobility that were on King *Edmund's* side were cut off; indeed it is recorded that there never was a more deadly wound given to the *English* Nobility than on that fatal day: at the same time were slain *Ednod* Bishop of *Dorchester*, *Wlfi* Abbot of *Ramsay*, and some of the Monks of *Ely*; who according to the custom of those times came thither to pray for the success of the King's Army.

Our

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. cap. 72.    <sup>2</sup> See pag. 85. note 3.    <sup>3</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 78.



Our Monks carried with them the Relicks of *St. Wendreda*, which were there lost; and it is said fell into the hands of King *Canute*, who gave them to the Church of *Canterbury*. As Bishop *Ednod* was brought to *Ely* and there buried, it will not be improper to give some account of him, and the occasion of his being buried there. *Ednod* was originally a Monk of *Worcester*, whence he was brought by *Oswald* Bishop of that place, to assist in settling the Abby of *Ramsay* then newly founded by the famous *Ailwin* Alderman of all *England*, and became the first Abbot thereof. Whilst he was there, he translated the Body of *St. Ivo* a *Persian* Bishop from the neighbouring Town of *Slepa*, where it was first buried, to his own Abby; and afterwards built a Church on the place where the Body had lain, to the honour of that Saint, from whom the Town has ever since been called *St. Ives*.—By his advice and assistance, his Sister the Lady *Alfwena* Relict of Duke *Ethelstan* and Nurse to *K. Edgar*, founded the Nunnery of *Chateris* in the *Isle of Ely*, to which he was a principal benefactor.—In the Year 1005, *Ednod* was promoted to the Bishoprick of *Dorchester*.<sup>1</sup> When *St. Elphege* the Martyr, A.Bp. of *Canterbury*, was cruelly stoned to death at *Grenewich* by the *Danes* in the year 1012, this pious and good Bishop went to the place of his Martyrdom, and recovering the Body, buried it honourably in the Church of *St. Paul* in *London*: At length, attending the Army of King *Edmund*, at the fatal battle of *Assendun*, he was there slain: his right hand was cut off, for the sake of a Ring he wore on one of his fingers; and his body, being wounded in several places, was carried off by some of his attendants, in order to convey it to *Ramsay*, where he had been Abbot, and there to bury it: but coming by water to *Ely*, and lodging at the Abby; *Algar* the late Bishop of *Elmham*, (who lived there retired, after having resigned his See.) thought proper to bury the body privately that night in the Church, without consulting those that brought it thither: the reason he gave for so doing, was the great affection he knew the deceased Bishop had for the Saints of this Church; and because he looked on him as a Martyr, and therefore was desirous of having him buried here.—His memory was highly revered by the Monks of *Ely*; on which account his relicks were afterwards translated out of the Old Conventual Church, into the Cathedral, among other Benefactors.<sup>2</sup>

OUR Abbot *Elfin*, ‘after a life of great sanctity and observance of the commandments of God, and after the acquisition of much honour and great possessions to his Church, died in a good old age, says my Author, and was laid in a Tomb next his predecessor the first Abbot of the Church, in the time of King *Ethelred*, by whom he was made Abbot.’<sup>3</sup>—By this account, *Elfin*’s death must have happened in the year 1016, or before; for King *Ethelred* died that year:—however we find the year 1019, assigned for that event, in the History of *Ely* published by Mr. *Warton*:<sup>4</sup>—but as this is only an Abridgment of the former, and oftentimes Dates are inserted in it, which are not found in the original;—the first account seems most likely to be true.—Indeed it is not improbable, considering the unsettled state of the Kingdom about that time, that the Abby continued vacant till the year 1019.

<sup>1</sup> He is sometimes called Bishop of Lincoln; but that, by way of anticipation; for the Bishoprick was not removed from *Dorchester* to *Lincoln*, till after the Norman Conquest. <sup>2</sup> See pag. 85. Note 3.  
<sup>3</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 80. <sup>4</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 608.



LEOFWIN, *called also* OSCHITEL, *Abbot III.*

**E**LSIN was succeeded by LEOFWIN otherwise called OSCHITEL, but the year is as uncertain as the time of his Predecessor's death:—as little do we know of his person or acts; for our Author tells us,<sup>1</sup> he did not meet with so much as his Name in any of the Writings of the Church; only he found in the *English Chronicle*,<sup>2</sup> that *Leofwin* having been deposed by his Monks, accompanied *Egelnoth* A.Bp. of *Canterbury* to *Rome*, when he went to receive his Pall; (that was in the year 1022;<sup>3</sup>) and there in the presence of Pope *Benedict*, cleared himself of the crimes laid to his charge, and on his return home, was reinstated in his office, but died soon after.

LEOFRIC, *Abbot IV.*

**L**EOFRIC, Prior of this Monastery, was promoted by King *Canute* to be Abbot, on the death of *Leofwin*, A.D. 1022, and received benediction from *Alfwine* Bp. of *Elmbam*. The same year the King, at the request of that Bishop, made an exchange with the Abbot and Monks, of the Village of [*Wood-*] *Dittune*, which was part of the King's Demesne, for some possessions they had at *Chefle*, to the advantage of the Church; and confirmed it by his Charter,<sup>4</sup> dated on the Feast-day of St. *Etheldreda*, [Oct. 17.]

THE following year *Wolstan* 5 A.Bp. of *York* was buried in our old Conventual Church; of whom therefore it may be proper to say something, and relate the occasion of that event. He was of noble Parentage;<sup>5</sup> and being allied to some of the best Families in the Kingdom, was highly respected on that account, as well as for his many personal accomplishments, and particularly his great piety: He was educated a Monk, and advanced to be an Abbot, (but of what place we are not informed;) and on the death of *Aldulf* in 1002, was by King *Ethelred* promoted to the Arch-bishoprick of *York*: He flourished in the reigns of K. *Ethelred*, K. *Edmund*, and K. *Canute*, being equally beloved and respected by them all: he was well-versed in the Laws of his Country, an able Statesman, and frequently called to the Council and advised with in matters of the greatest importance to the Kingdom; and his advice generally regarded as an oracle.—When King *Canute* had built and endowed the famous Church at *Assendun*, in memory of the battle there fought between him and King *Edmund Ironside*; he desired Archbishop *Wolstan* to perform the rites of Dedication; which he did accordingly, with great solemnity, in the presence of the King, and many of the Bishops and principal Nobles of the Kingdom.—Towards the latter part of his Life, the Archbishop coming out of devotion to visit the Church of *Ely*, was received by the Abbot and Monks with solemn procession; a respect usually paid to persons of rank and in high stations; and being conducted into the Church, as he was standing at the head of

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 80.    <sup>2</sup> Our Author here probably refers to the same that is now called the *Saxon Chronicle*, in which is the following account, — ‘1022. Hoc anno, — Æthelnothus [Archi-] Episcopus profectus est Romam; et Leofwinus Abbas, qui fuit injuste [de Monasterio] apud Elig pulsus, ei fuit socius, et ipsum omni crimine purgavit, cujus (ut a Papa didicerat,) fuerat infirmulatus, testante Archiepo. et toto comitatu, qui apud eum aderat.’ Chron. Saxon. Edit. Gibson.    <sup>3</sup> Ibid.    <sup>4</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 82.    <sup>5</sup> Ibid. cap. 87.    <sup>6</sup> Our Author here also takes notice of a report concerning him, viz. that he was untimely born, being forced to be cut out of his Mother's womb — which may well enough account for the Surname he had given him of *Reprobis*; (being thus left destitute and forsaken in his infancy;) of which several Authors are at a loss about the reason. See Godwin de Præsul. Angl. Edit. Richardson. pag. 452.—Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 473.



of the proceſſion and leaning on his paſtoral ſtaff, it ſuddenly ſunk into the ground almoſt up to the middle: Struck with which incident, he conjectured it to be the will of heaven that his body ſhould there be buried; and inſtantly pronounced thoſe words of the Pſalmiſt, ‘ This ſhall be my reſt for ever, here will I dwell, &c.’<sup>1</sup> And from that time he always expreſſed a more than ordinary affection and regard for the place, and gave ſeveral ornaments to the Church. His name appears as a witneſs to many Charters and Writings of the Church about that time. In his laſt ſickneſs, being then at *York*, and perceiving his end drawing nigh, he ordered his Body to be conveyed thence to *Ely*, and there buried: which was accordingly performed. He died on June 27. 1023. and was buried here in the old Conventual Church, in the very place where his Paſtoral-ſtaff had ſunk into the earth. — After the building of the preſent Cathedral Church, (and before it was finiſhed,) the Monks found it neceſſary to remove his Coffin from the place where it was firſt buried, on account of ſome alterations<sup>2</sup> then making in that part of the old Conventual Church. On inſpecting the Body, they found it quite decayed; but the clothing, particularly the Caſſock<sup>3</sup> and Archiepiſcopal Pall affixed to it with gilded pins, and the Stole and Maniple, ſo entire; that it was a matter of wonder to them, how they could have lain ſo long in that ſtate, and yet continue ſo perfect as they found them. They then depoſited the coffin without the Church, in the cemetery of the Monks, near the Chancel; till they might afterwards fix upon ſome more conſpicuous place for it; ‘ which was done many years after, in the time of Biſhop *Nigelus*; when he was placed the firſt in order, of thoſe whoſe bodies were then removed.’<sup>4</sup>

IN Abbot *Leofric*’s time, the Lady *Godiva*,<sup>5</sup> relict of a certain Earl, whoſe name is not mentioned, frequently came to *Ely*, to perform her devotions at the Tomb of St. *Etheldreda*; and was ſo pleaſed with the agreeableneſs of the place, and the devout behaviour of the Monks; that ſhe gave ſome of the beſt of her poſſeſſions to the Church, which were *Eſtre*, *Fanbrege*, and *Terlinges*. The ſame Lady in her laſt ſickneſs, wrote to *Elfric* Biſhop of *Elmham* and *Leofric* Abbot of *Ely*,<sup>6</sup> ſignifying her bequeſt of *Berching* to the Church: Her manner of addreſs was thus; ‘ My Lords, I unhappy woman ſenſible of my failings, in that I have been heretofore too negligent of the care of my ſoul; knowing now that the time of my departure is at hand, and being willing to work, whiſt I may; think proper to inform your bleſſedneſs, concerning the diſpoſal of my poſſeſſions, with regard to my Lady the holy Virgin *Etheldreda* in *Ely*; that is, I beſtow there my Eſtate of *Berchinges*, which I am rightfully poſſeſſed of by inheritance from my Parents, that my remembrance may always continue with them, &c.’

ALFWIN,<sup>7</sup> Biſhop of *Elmham*, who had been educated a Monk at *Ely*, and promoted to that See, the latter end of King *Ethelred*’s reign, was engaged by

King

<sup>1</sup> Pſal. 132. 15. <sup>2</sup> It appears by our Author’s account afterwards, [cap. 146.] that about the year 1102, the Eaſt-end of the Old Church, (which I apprehend was circular, — See pag. 29. lin. 22.) was taken down, and a new building erected; when they were obliged to remove, for a time, the Coffins of SS. Withburga and Ermenilda: this, I doubt not, is the alteration here hinted at, and which likewiſe occaſioned the removal of our Archbiſhop’s Coffin, at the ſame time. <sup>3</sup> ‘ Caſulam et Pallium auratis ſpinulis affixum, cum Stola et Manipulo invenerunt, &c.’ Ibid. <sup>4</sup> See pag. 85. Note 3. <sup>5</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 81. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. cap. 83. <sup>7</sup> Ibid. cap. 86.



King *Canute* in the year 1020, to remove the Secular Clergy from the Collegiate Church of *Bedericfworth* or *St. Edmund's Bury*, and to establish a Convent of *Benedictine* Monks in their room. In forming this Monastery, the Bishop proceeded in the usual method in such cases, and which seems most equitable, that is, admitting such of the Seculars he found there, who were willing to take upon them the order, into this new Society; took care to provide for the rest elsewhere; and then completed the whole number intended, with regular Monks from the Monasteries of *Ely* and *Holm* in *Norfolk*. The King endowed this New Abby with large estates, and many privileges and immunities; and the Bishop himself was a considerable Benefactor to it, by supplying them with many Necessaries and Ornaments: and having settled the Abby according to his mind, and distributed much of his substance to it, and some other religious Houses; he resigned his Bishoprick, and returned to *Ely*, and there lived retired the rest of his days<sup>1</sup> in the Monastery, as his predecessor had done. He was buried in the Old Church; and above an hundred years after, had the honour of having his bones translated into the New Church, among other Benefactors.<sup>2</sup>

THESE are the chief matters recorded by our Author, that any ways concern the Church of *Ely*, during the time that *Leofric* was Abbot, who is said to have died in the seventh year<sup>3</sup> of his government; and therefore probably in the year 1029.

#### LEOFSIN, Abbot V.

LEOFSIN,<sup>4</sup> at that time a Monk of this Monastery, who was of a noble and wealthy Family, and educated in it from a youth, as before observed,<sup>5</sup> was promoted by King *Canute* to be Abbot in the room of *Leofric*. He continued however a considerable time without benediction, and therefore the King sent for him to *Walewich*, and ordered that ceremony to be performed in his presence, by *Egelnoth* Archbishop of *Canterbury*. This abbot had the honour and reputation of his Monastery so much at heart, that he always made it a rule with him, to admit no Monks into it, but such as were known to be men of learning and of the best families; by which he intended that the Monastery should become richer, and the Monks be enabled to live in a still greater degree of splendor: and as the ordinary revenues of the Monastery from their estates were now become very considerable, and sufficient to answer all their demands in a very ample manner;—whatever more accrued to it occasionally by gifts or legacies, he divided among them, that all might partake of the benefit: at the same time he was very attentive to their behaviour, taking all opportunities of advising, exhorting, and if needful of reproofing them; but with that gentleness, as shewed his affection towards them; always having in mind that excellent precept of *St. Benedict*, to aim at gaining their love and esteem, rather than to be feared by them.<sup>6</sup> The Abby under his government and by his means, still increased in possessions and estates, and sumptuous furniture, and in ornaments of various kinds, rich vestments and vessels

<sup>1</sup> He is said to have died A. D. 1029. by *Cressy*, who takes no notice of his having resigned and lived retired some time before his death. *Cressy's Ch. Hist.* pag. 944. <sup>2</sup> See pag. 85. Note 3. <sup>3</sup> *Angl. Sacr.* Vol. i. pag. 608. <sup>4</sup> *Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 84.* <sup>5</sup> Pag. 87. <sup>6</sup> 'Illud semper & potius affectans beati Benedicti plus amari quam timeri.' *Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 84.*



vessels of gold and silver for the use of the Church. *Belesham*, [*Fen*] *Dittune*, *Wetheringsfete*, and other valuable estates, were given to the Church in his time.

IT has been mentioned before that *Oswi* and his Wife *Leofleda* Daughter of Duke *Brithnoth*, gave to the Church several estates, with their Son *Alfwine*, when he was sent to the Abby to be educated, and among the rest *Steuechworth* for his clothing, which was afterwards to remain to the Church: — it seems that estate, by some accident or other, did not immediately come to the Monks; for the same Lady outliving her husband, in the latter part of her days, obtained the King's leave to dispose of her possessions, and gave it to two of her Daughters for their lives, before the Church came into possession of it; as appears by her Letter to the King, with her Will annexed; which was in the following style: ' To you my most beloved Lord and to my most honoured Lady the Queen, do I return all manner of thanks, for your favour to your handmaid, in granting me licence in my widowhood to dispose of my substance according to my pleasure: — Now therefore, by this Writing I declare that I give to God and St. *Peter* and the holy Virgin *Etbeldreda* the village of *Belesham* with all its appertenances, after my decease, for the Soul of my husband, and for my children, whether living or dead: Next, to my two Daughters *Elfwenna* and *Elfwida* I grant *Steuechworth* for their lives, and after their decease to the Church of *Ely*: Also to my other Daughter *Leofwara* I give the village of *Wetheringsfete*, on this condition, that she keep herself chaste, or take to herself a lawful husband, so as to bring no disgrace on herself and family. — Thus, my Lord O King, by your favour, do I dispose of my substance after my decease, praying that my Will may so stand; that no one (except yourself, which God forbid,) may alter it; and whoever shall attempt to do it, may he have the curse of our Lord Jesus Christ, and have that Sentence pronounced on him, Go, ye cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and his Angels.' This writing was in three parts, one of which was lodged at *Ely*, another in the King's Treasury, and the third was kept by *Leofleda* herself: and when she died, her body was brought to *Ely* and buried in the cemetery of the Monks. Soon after her Daughter *Elfwida* beforementioned, choosing a single state, gave up herself and her interest in *Steuechworth* to the Church, and there took the vow of perpetual chastity: on which the Convent assigned her their Manor of *Coveney*, not far from *Ely*, where she lived retired, and employed her time in weaving and working in embroidery with her maidens. Her Sister *Leofwara* married to a Nobleman of great fortunes named *Lusurwin*; and afterwards gave her Manor of *Wetheringsfete* to the Church: this Lady and her Husband<sup>2</sup> were both persons of eminent piety; and having a particular regard for the Saints of the Church of *Ely*, and esteem for the Monks, were desirous of being admitted into their society, and of being buried there; and accordingly made an agreement with them for that purpose: on which occasion they gave to the Church, and he confirmed by his Will, these following possessions, *Dittune* (not *Wood-Dittune*,<sup>3</sup>) and *Cnopwelle*, *Little-Burch*, *Westune*, *Chidingtune*, and *Pentelaue*, *Wimbise*, *Hamniggfelde* and *Eslchentune*, with their appertenances.

WHAT

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. cap. 88.    <sup>2</sup> Ibid. cap. 89.    <sup>3</sup> 'Dittune, non illam Silvestrem, &c.' ibid. There are two Dittunes, one near Newmarket, which the Ch. was in possession of before; the other near Cambridge, now called Fen-Dittune, which is that here meant.



WHAT a flourishing state the Abby of *Ely* was in at this time, may easily be collected from what has been said concerning the lands and estates that were given to it: and that the Monks might be the more regularly and constantly supplied with provisions of all kinds; the Abbot, with the King's consent and favour, let out many of those estates to tenants, who were obliged to bring in provisions in their course throughout the year: <sup>1</sup> by which appointment *Sceldford* was to furnish provisions two weeks in the year, *Stapilford* one week, *Litleberi* two weeks, *Tripelaue* two, *Hauechestune* one, and *Neutune* one, *Grantedene* two, *Thoftes* one, *Cotenham* one, *Wiwelingham* one, *Dittune* two weeks, *Horningeseie* two, *Steuechworth* two, *Belsham* two weeks, *Kadenhoe* four days, *Suafham* three days, *Spaldewic* two weeks, *Sumerefham* two weeks, *Bluntesham* one, *Colne* one, *Herdberst* one, *Drenchestune* one, *Ratelesdene* two, *Heckham* two, *Bereching* two, *Needinge* one, *Wederingsete* one, *Brecheham* two, *Pulham* two, *Thorpe* and *Dirham* two weeks, *Nordwold* two, *Feltewelle* two weeks; *Merham* was assigned to carry the rents of the Church from *Norfolk*, and to entertain the comers and goers to and from the Monastery; — and in case any of these Farms failed of their quota in their proper time and season, certain estates in the *Isle* were deputed to supply the deficiency.

THE Abbot of *Ely*, being one of the three great Abbots who held the office and dignity of the King's Chancellor, each of them taking it in their course four Months in the year; <sup>2</sup> King *Canute* several times took the occasion of our Abbot's entering on his office, which was always on the Purification of the Virgin *Mary*, to keep that Feast with the usual solemnity at the Abby of *Ely*.<sup>3</sup> Once it happened, in his passage thither by water, with *Emma* his Queen, being attended by many of his Nobles; as they drew near to *Ely*, the King was standing up, and taking a view of the Church, which was directly before him; and whilst he was musing upon it, he perceived a kind of harmonious sound at a great distance, which at first he could not tell what to make of; but finding it to increase as he advanced; he listened attentively to it, and perceived it to be the Monks in the Church, singing their canonical hours. The King in the joy of his heart broke out into a song which he made extempore on the occasion, calling on the Nobles that were about him to join in the chorus. This Song in the *English* or *Saxon* language, as used at the time, was long preserved by the *Ely* Monks, for the sake of the Royal Author; we have only the first stanza handed down to us, (for the introducing of which antient fragment I have inserted the abovementioned incident.)

‘ Mepie rungen ðe Munecheþ binnen Ely.  
 ‘ ða Cnut chinz þeu ðer-by.  
 ‘ poþe ð cniteþ noþ the lanτ.  
 ‘ and hepe þe þer Munecheþ rænz.

of which our Author gives us this latin translation;

‘ Dulce cantaverunt Monachi in Ely,  
 ‘ Dum Canutus Rex navigaret prope ibi.  
 ‘ Nunc, milites, navigate propius ad terram,  
 ‘ Et simul audiamus Monachorum harmoniam, &c.

They

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 84.    <sup>2</sup> See pag. 88.    <sup>3</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 85.



They continued singing till they arrived at land; and soon after the Monks met the King, and conducted him in solemn procession into the Church: — this probably was the first time of the King's coming to *Ely*; for then he confirmed the Liberties of the Church, that had been granted by his Predecessors Kings of *England*, by his Charter, which he offered on the high Altar, where the body of St. *Etheldreda* laid entombed.

ANOTHER time, when the King intended to keep the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin *Mary* at *Ely*; a severe frost setting in, had froze over the River and all the waters that surrounded the place, that there was no means of getting thither, without the greatest danger: The King however was not deterred by the difficulties of the passage, from attempting it; and finding there was no other way, proposed being conveyed over the ice in a sledge, by *Sobam-mere*; and declared if any one would go before, and shew him the way, he would be the next to follow. There chanced to stand among the croud of people near the King, one *Brithmer*, a native of the *Isle*, and called *Budde* from his stoutness, who offered to lead the way; the King readily accepted the offer; so *Brithmer* set off, and the King followed him, to the surprise of his Courtiers, who were in some anxiety for his safety, and thought it too hazardous an undertaking: however, they went on without meeting any obstruction, and arrived safe at *Ely*, where he kept the Feast with usual joy and solemnity. — The King used frequently to speak of this adventure; and in telling the story would pleasantly observe the lucky circumstance of having such a lusty fellow for his guide; as it made him quite easy and satisfied that he himself who was but of moderate stature, and withal vigorous and active, might safely venture where he had such a guide to lead the way. — The King did not let this service of *Brithmer* pass unrewarded; for he made him and his possessions free; and so his posterity continued, by virtue of a grant made at that time by the King.

THESE occasional visits the King made to the Abby, and the frequent access the Abbot of *Ely* had at other times to the King by reason of his office of Chancellor, as it contributed to advance the credit and reputation of the Monastery, so no doubt it contributed to introduce some change in the morals of the Monks, who seem about this time to have lived in great splendor and magnificence, perhaps more than became their state and condition. *Emma* the Queen frequently accompanied the King on these occasions, and made the Church many valuable presents; <sup>1</sup> particularly one piece of purple cloth wrought with gold, and worked in several compartments with gold and set with jewels, such as there was none like it for richness in the Kingdom, she offered to St. *Etheldreda*; and to the other Saints there, she offered to each a covering of Silk, embroidered with gold and set with jewels, but of less value than the former: she also gave for a covering of the Altar a large pall of green-colour adorned with plates of gold,<sup>2</sup> to be placed on the front of the Altar on the chief Festival; and over it a border of fine linen of deep red, the whole length of the Altar, and reaching from the corners quite down to the ground, a foot in breadth, with it's gold fringe, making a rich and glorious show.

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 79.    <sup>2</sup> — ‘Fecit etiam indumenta altaris magnam pallam viridi coloris insignem cum laminis aureis, ut in faciem altaris per diem solemnem celsius appareret.’ ib.



KING *Canute* died in November in the year 1035. at *Shaftsbury*, and was buried at *Winchester*; leaving the Kingdom in great disorder, on account of the succession; for most of the Nobility who were in the *Danish* interest were for setting up *Harold*, his son by *Elgiva* of *Northampton*; others were for *Hardecanute* his son by Queen *Emma*; but many of the *English* espoused the cause of *Alfred* and *Edward* sons of the same Queen by King *Ethelred*: however at length the party that was for *Harold* prevailed, and he was placed on the throne. The two Princes *Alfred* and *Edward* sons of the late King *Ethelred*, were about this time with their Uncle *Richard* Duke of *Normandy*, where they had long time resided; and he dying that year; they both came over into *England*<sup>1</sup> the following year, with a considerable train of attendants, to pay a visit to their Mother Queen *Emma*, who resided at *Winchester*; and probably with this further design, of seeing how the *English* stood affected towards them. The appearance of these two Princes in *England* at such a time, could not fail of giving umbrage to some Lords who were devoted to King *Harold*, and particularly to Earl *Godwin*; who, after they had been some time at *Winchester* with their Mother, formed a design of betraying them into the hands of *Harold*, in order to dispatch them: Accordingly the Princes were both invited to Court, before their return to *Normandy*. — But the design succeeded only in part; for whether it was that the Queen was apprehensive of some ill intention, or whatever else was the occasion, Prince *Alfred* only set out on his journey towards *London*; and when he had got as far as *Gildeford*, he was there met by Earl *Godwin*, under pretence of doing him honour, and conducting him to Court. He received the Prince with all the outward marks of respect, and show of friendship; and they spent the evening together, in such free and friendly conversation and cheerfulness, that the Prince could not have the least suspicion of any perfidious design: but in the middle of the night after they had retired to rest, he was awaked out of his security, and found himself and all his attendants made prisoners, and in the hands of their enemies. The Prince, and some of the principal persons in his retinue, were bound and hurried away to *London*; most of the rest were used in the cruelest manner, and put to death by various tortures. — As for *Alfred*, he was sentenced to have his eyes put out, and to be conveyed to the *Isle of Ely*: these orders were executed, and with circumstances of ignominy and the greatest cruelty; being carried part of the way upon an horse, with his legs tyed under the belly; and afterwards put into a boat to be transported to the place of his confinement; and as soon as they drew near the shore, before they landed, the unhappy Prince was forced to undergo the cruel operation of having his eyes forced out; and in that miserable condition was brought to the Monastery, and committed to the care of the Monks. The pain and anguish he suffered from that horrid and barbarous act, is thought to have put an end to his life; for he died soon after, much lamented by the Monks, and was buried by them with due honour, in the western part of the South Isle or Portico of the Church. — This is the substance of what is delivered by most Historians,<sup>2</sup> of the unhappy death of Prince *Alfred*. The Authors of *Biographia Britannica*, under the title of *Alfred*, seem to reflect on the Monks of *Ely*, as if they were accountable for the life of that Prince. What inducement there was of sending him to the

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 90. ad ann. 1036.

<sup>2</sup> Matth. Westm. — Flor. Wigorn. — Roger de Hoveden, &c.



the Monastery of *Ely*, does not clearly appear: but *Edward* after he came to the Crown, continued a friend to the Monks during his whole reign; which certainly he would not have done, had he thought they had been any ways accessary to his death; for he was strict in his enquiry into the murder of his Brother; and though Earl *Godwin* by his powerful influence, procured himself to be acquitted in form of Law;<sup>1</sup> yet King *Edward*, who believed him guilty, never forgave him.<sup>2</sup> One end that was intended by this barbarous treatment of *Alfred* and his *Norman* attendants, was to deter his Brother *Edward*, who was then at *Winchester* with Queen *Emma* his Mother, from staying any longer in the Kingdom; which had it's effect: for as soon as the Queen was informed of it, she sent away her son *Edward* into *Normandy*; and shortly after receiving orders to depart the Kingdom, she retired into *Flanders*, and lived at *Bruges*.

NOTHING more particularly relating to the Church of *Ely* occurs, during the reign of King *Harold*, who died in the year 1040; or in that of his brother *Hardecnut*, who reigned only two years; and dying in the year 1042. was succeeded by *Edward* called the *Confessor*, son of King *Ethelred* by Queen *Emma*. — This Prince had received the earliest part of his education in the Monastery at *Ely*, having been brought thither in his infancy by his Royal Parents, and being wrapped up in a mantle, was by them offered on the holy Altar; which mantle was long time preserved in the Church in memory thereof: and it was a constant tradition with the Monks that he used to take great delight in learning to sing Psalms and godly Hymns, among the children of his own age, in the Cloister: on which account he always retained a favourable regard to the place, after he became King.

OUR Abbot *Leofsin*, after he had with great commendation governed this Abby about 15 years, and procured many possessions and advantages to it, died Nov. 15. A.D. 1044, and was buried near his Predecessors in the Old Conventual Church.

### WILFRIC, Abbot VI.

AFTER the death of *Leofsin*, King *Edward* in the third year of his reign, A.D. 1045,<sup>3</sup> promoted his kinsman WILFRIC to be Abbot of *Ely*, from the New Monastery of *Winchester*,<sup>4</sup> and there caused him to receive benediction from *Stigand*,<sup>5</sup> then Bishop of *Elmbam*, and afterwards Archbishop of *Canterbury*.

IN the first years of his government, he was very studious of the welfare of the Monastery, and active in the defence of it's rights and privileges; by which he gained the esteem of all the Monks: he also purchased of Earl *Elgar*, the Manor of *Bercham* or *Bergbam* in *Suffolk*, for 25 Marks of gold, and gave it to the Church.

KING *Edward*, as a testimony of his regard for this Monastery, gave to the Monks by his Charter the village of *Lachingbethe*:<sup>6</sup> — this Charter is the more valuable and of greater concernment, as all the estates and possessions at that time belonging to the Church, are particularly mentioned in it: the rights, liberties, privileges and im-

munities,

<sup>1</sup> Chron. Joh. Bromton, inter X. Scriptores Hist. Anglicanæ. col. 937. <sup>2</sup> Matth. Westmonast. ad annum 1054. Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 239. <sup>3</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 94. <sup>4</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 609. <sup>5</sup> Ibid. pag. 406. Note i. <sup>6</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. cap. 92.



munities, and particularly the temporal jurisdiction and power of trying Causes, are set forth; and the original privileges of the *Iſle* in the time of St. *Etheldreda*, and it's exemption from Episcopal authority are asserted, and declared to have been restored by his grandfather King *Edgar*: and all these possessions and liberties are again confirmed by the King, with the consent of his great men: and that they might remain the more firm and lasting to future ages, the King also obtained of Pope *Victor II.*<sup>1</sup> a Bull, directed to the King and all the Nobility of the Kingdom, in which by his Papal authority he confirmed all those rights, privileges and possessions to the Church of *Ely*, concluding with the usual denunciation of the sentence of excommunication against all that should presume to violate their liberties, or any ways disturb the Monks in their possessions.---This Charter of the King, and the Pope's Bull, both which are without date, the reader will find in the APPENDIX.

BUT notwithstanding the King's protection, and the security given the Monks for the full enjoyment of their possessions and privileges, both by Regal and Papal authority; they had a long and troublesome contest<sup>2</sup> with a Nobleman of great power under the King, *Eſgar* surnamed *Stallere*<sup>3</sup> from his office; who had forcibly taken possession of their village of *Eſtre* otherwise called *Plaffix*. The Abbot and his brethren, in hopes of recovering their estate by gentle means, produced the Will of the Donor, and the King's Charter of Confirmation, in evidence of their claim, and endeavoured to persuade him to restore it; but could not prevail: on which they applied to the King; but without effect; for *Eſgar* found means to evade the King's orders:—they afterwards proceeded to ecclesiastical censures, and denounced sentence of excommunication against him; this also he disregarded at first; but being thereby prohibited from entering the Church, and excluded from the society of the faithful, he was obliged to submit, and desired to come to terms with them; to which, for the sake of peace, and out of respect to his character and high station, they consented; and it was agreed between the parties, that *Eſgar* should hold and enjoy that estate of the Church, during his life, and after his decease it should revert to the Church; to which final concord the King and Queen and great men of the Kingdom were witnesses. But the *Norman* Conquest succeeding soon after, *Eſgar* was one of those *English* Lords who fell under the displeasure of the Conqueror, his lands and estates were all seized, and he himself was imprisoned with many others, and at last died under confinement.—Thus was the Church of *Ely* dispossessed of this estate; which seems to have been annexed, after the Conquest, to the office of High Constable of *England*, and so continued as long as that office existed.<sup>4</sup>

AMONG other persons of note and benefactors to the Church of *Ely*, in these times, was *Oſmund*<sup>5</sup> a *Swedish* Bishop. I meet with the Name of this Bishop in the *Swedish* Writers referred to below;<sup>6</sup> who give this account of him: That he studied a considerable

<sup>1</sup> Victor II. was introned Pope, April 13, 1055. — and died in June 1057, having held the Papacy only two years and about three Months.—See Bower's Hist. of the Popes. Vol. V. pag. 204, 206. <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 96. <sup>3</sup> He was High Constable of England, or Master of the Horse to the King. — Vid. Spelmanni Gloss. ad *Stallarius*, et *Constabularius*. <sup>4</sup> See Camden's Britannia, in Essex, pag. 345.—Rapin's Hist. of Engl. Vol. i. pag. 468. Note 1. <sup>5</sup> Lib. Elien, MS. lib. ii. cap. 99. <sup>6</sup> Magistri Adami Bremens. Hist. Ecclesiast. præsertim Bremens. — Chronicon Episcoporum per Sueciam, Gothiam, et Finlandiam, &c. a Joh. Messenio. p. 73. Stockholmiae 1614.



siderable time at *Bremen*, at the expence of *Sigfrid* a *Norwegian* Bishop; but being ambitious of raising himself to one of the highest stations in the Church, he left that place, and went to *Rome*; where he solicited to be promoted to the Episcopal Order, and to be sent as a Missionary to some of the Northern parts, that had not yet received the Gospel; but, it is said, not succeeding in that business, he went into *Poland*, and was there consecrated a Bishop, and returned to *Sweden*; where assuming to himself the character of a Missionary of the Apostolic See, and affecting to appear always in publick with a cross born before him, he was for a while received under that character: however, on application made to the *Swedish* Court, by the Archbishop of *Hamburgh*, he was rejected: and what became of him afterwards their own Historians do not tell us: — But we are informed, <sup>1</sup> that *Osmund* came over into *England* from *Sweden* in the reign of *Edward the Confessor*, by whom he was favourably received, and lived at his Court. He was a venerable old man, when he came into *England*, and was much respected and beloved by the Nobility of this Kingdom. During his residence at the Court, he often heard talk of the Monks of *Ely*, and so much to their advantage, that he had a mind to make them a visit; intending, if it proved agreeable, to retire from the Court, and to spend the rest of his days among them. Accordingly he came to *Ely*, and being pleased with the respect and civilities shown him by the Monks, finding also the place entirely to his satisfaction; he opened to them his desire of continuing there for life: to which they readily agreed; and so was he admitted of their Society, to perform all the Episcopal offices among them, as long as he lived; in conformity to the established custom of the place, and as other Bishops before him, having quitted their Bishopricks, had lived there, in a state of retirement from the world, still retaining their character, and continuing to exercise their function within the Monastery as occasion required. — The exact time of his coming to *Ely*, is not known, but it was during the time that *Wilfric* was Abbot, and he lived to the time of Abbot *Thurstan*; having a little before his death given all his Episcopal ornaments to the Monastery. He was buried first in the Old Conventual Church, and afterwards removed thence into the New, among other benefactors to the Abby; <sup>2</sup> and his bones probably are still remaining inclosed in the North-wall of the present Choir, and over them his effigies may be seen painted on the wall.

BUT to return to our Abbot *Wilfric*; — after he had lived in credit and reputation, and governed this Abby with an unblemished character many years; he at last fell into disgrace, by involving himself too much in secular affairs, and preferring the advantage and interest of his own private family, to the good of the society over which he presided; which ended in his own ruin. — The Abbot had a Brother whose Name was *Guthmund*,<sup>3</sup> who made his addresses to the Daughter of a Nobleman: *Guthmund*, though he was of a Noble family, and related to the King himself; yet was not entitled to the privileges of the Prime Nobility, neither had he rank with them, not having a sufficient estate, that is, forty Hides of land in possession: on which account the Lady refused the offer, and the match was broke off. Whereupon *Guthmund* pri-

vately

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 99.    <sup>2</sup> Pag. 85. Note 3.    <sup>3</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 97.



vately applied to his Brother the Abbot of *Ely*, to assist him in this difficulty; and very much importuned him to put him in possession of some estates of the Church, sufficient to make up that deficiency:—And the Abbot, that his Brother might not lose so fair an opportunity of advancing himself in the world, too easily complied; and conveyed to him these several estates of the Monastery, Part of *Mereham* with the Court of the Manor, *Liveremere*, *Nachentune*, *Acholt*, *Bedenestede*, and *Gerboldestham*; which transaction was done privately, and without the knowledge and consent of the Monks; it was not long however, before they discovered the whole affair; and reproaching him with the wrong and injustice done to the Church, the Abbot thought proper to leave the Abby, and retire for the present to *Acholt*, where with sorrow and perturbation of mind, he fell sick, and after continuing some little time in a languishing state, he died very penitent for his past offence: his body was conveyed to *Ely*, and there buried. After his death, *Guthmund* refused to surrender up the estates; but was brought to compound with *Thurstan* the succeeding Abbot, to hold them of the Church only during his life: however, in those times of confusion that followed immediately after, by the conquest of *England*, *Hugo de Munford* a Norman Knight got possession of them, and the Church was never able to recover them.—The death of *Wilfric* happened in the year 1065, when King *Edward* was in a very weak and declining state of health; and *Stigand*<sup>1</sup> Archbishop of *Canterbury* had then the chief management of affairs, who assumed to himself extraordinary degrees of authority, and abused it in many instances: as the Bishopricks and Abbies became vacant, he took them into his hands, and kept them so, or filled them up, according to his will and pleasure, and disposed of the revenues of them: on the vacancy of the Abby of *Ely*, he took possession, and received the profits of it to his own use; and even after an Abbot was appointed, on some pretence or other, he still retained some of the best possessions belonging to the Church. However, to palliate this injury, he seemed very liberal to those Monasteries he held any considerable time in his hands: as particularly to that of *Ely*, he gave largely both in Gold and Silver plate, for the service of the Altar; and divers ornaments to the Church, a large Crucifix overlaid with Silver, with the image of our Lord as big as life; and the images of the Virgin *Mary*, and *St. John* of brass; besides several Vestments esteemed the richest and most costly in the Kingdom.

#### THURSTAN, Abbot VII.

**K**ING *Edward* the Peaceable died at *London* the Fifth day of January, in the beginning of the year 1066: the day after, *Harald* son of Earl *Godwin*, agreeably, as it is said, to the nomination of *K. Edward*, was elected by all the Great Men of the Nation, and on the same day was crowned by *Aldred* Archbishop of *York*. Soon after, the Abby of *Ely* having been some time vacant by the death of *Wilfric*, the King appointed *THURSTAN* Abbot in his room; a man of approved virtue and moderation, who was born at *Wichford* near *Ely*, and had been bred up in the Monastery from a Child, and was sufficiently learned both in *English* and *Latin*.<sup>2</sup>

HARALD

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. cap. 98.      <sup>2</sup> Ibid. cap. 100.



HARALD began his reign with great popularity, in consequence of his regard to Piety and Justice, and of his Affability and Courteousness. No sooner had he succeeded in repelling an invasion of his Kingdom in the Northern parts by *Harold Harfager* King of *Norway*, than he was alarmed by the invasion of his Kingdom by *William* Duke of *Normandy* at *Pesnesé*. He instantly marched with as much of his army as he could collect, to give him battle: the engagement lasted from 9 in the morning till towards night, when *Harald* was killed and his army defeated.

ON Christmas-day 1066, *William* was crowned King at *Westminster* by *Aldred*, having first taken the oath, 'that he would defend the holy Churches of God, and their 'Governors, that he would govern the people subject to him, justly and prudently; 'that he would enact just Laws, and cause them to be observed; and effectually hinder Rapines and unjust Judgments:' but regardless of his Oath, he exercised the most tyrannical cruelties and oppressions towards the Nobility as well as Common people: and being determined to have the *Norman* Customs and Laws observed in *England*, he began his design with introducing *Normans* into all places of trust and profit, made them Bishops, Abbots, and Governors of Counties, and by their means demanded an implicit submission to his Will. He deposed *Stigand* Archbishop of *Canterbury* and *Egelmar* Bishop of the *East-Angles*, with other Bishops and Abbots, appointing *Normans* in their room.<sup>1</sup>

No wonder therefore that *Thurstan* Abbot of *Ely*, as well from a sense of his own danger, as from a grateful resentment of the injury done to his Benefactor King *Harald*, determined to support the interest of *Edgar Etheling*, whom he considered as the rightful heir of the Crown after *Harald*. He readily gave shelter to such *English* Lords as fled into the *Isle of Ely* for security, particularly to *Edwin* Earl of *Chester* and *Morchar* Earl of *Northumberland*, hoping from the natural strength<sup>2</sup> of the Country, being accessible only, and that in a few places, by boats, to make it a secure retreat, while insurrections were raising in different parts of the Kingdom. Among others who joined them was *Hereward* son of *Leofric* Lord of *Brunne* or *Burne* in *Lincolnshire*, who had the reputation of being one of the best soldiers in the age: during his being in *Flanders*, the King, on the death of his Father had given his estate to *Ivo de Tailboise*, whom he dispossessed by force of arms; and retiring into the *Isle of Ely*, was elected General, and took all necessary precautions to act both on the defensive and offensive against the *Normans*; who arrived in the beginning of the Summer 1069; a considerable body of them was ordered to guard the passes out of the *Isle* on the Eastern side bordering upon *Suffolk*; whilst the King himself attempted to force a passage on the Western side, by forming a bridge or causeway of near two miles in length over the fens, made of straw, wood, and bags of earth.—This work was obstructed by *Hereward* in several successful sallies.—During this Siege, the King was greatly disconcerted by the success of the combined armies of the *English*, *Scots*, and *Danes*, in taking *York* and putting his Garrison to the sword: He was obliged to march thither in person, and having bought off the *Danes*, subdued the place and exercised unheard of cruelties throughout that Country.<sup>3</sup>

EARLY

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. cap. 101. <sup>2</sup> Ingulphi Hist. Croyl. p. 71. l. 7. <sup>3</sup> Simeon Dunelm. de Gestis Reg. Angl.



EARLY in the Spring of the year 1070, he returned to the siege of the *Iſle of Ely*, encamping in a place oppoſite to *Aldrey*, where, by means of a neck of land ſtretching out into the fens, the paſſage is the narroweſt of all towards *Cambridge*: from hence he carried on his work, and formed a Dam acroſs the river, which through the weight of water was ſoon broken down. — Diſconcerted by this diſaſter, the King retired to the Eaſtern ſide of the *Iſle*, and held a Council of War at *Brandon*, where it was reſolved to renew the attack at the ſame place as before. — *Hereward*, during the King's ſtay at *Brandon*, was there in diſguiſe, and got intelligence of the King's deſign, and returning back, though not without the utmoſt danger, he diſguiſed himſelf in the habit of a common fiſherman, and ſet fire to their Magazines of Straw and Timber, and taking advantage of the Enemy's hurry and conſternation, made a ſucceſsful ſally with his boats, and deſtroyed the forts they had erected.<sup>1</sup>

THE King, on this repeated diſaſter, retired to the Caſtle at *Cambridge* full of reſentment; and confirmed to his *Norman* followers, the alienation he had before made of the Eſtates and Manors of the Monaſtery which were ſituate without the *Iſle*. And indeed he could not have taken a more ready way to have obliged the Monks at *Ely* to ſubmit: they were willing enough to come to any terms with the King that he pleaſed to impoſe upon them; but had it not in their power to comply with or to aſſiſt the King in his Enterprize, being themſelves under military Government. The Nobility and General Officers had their Reſections of Dinner and Supper at the Abbot's Table, and the other Officers at the Tables of the Monks, each having his Arms hanging over his head, affixed to the wall, ready for uſe.

WHATEVER encouragement the Monks had at firſt given to the *Engliſh* Lords who oppoſed the Conqueror and held out the *Iſle of Ely* againſt him; the preſent ſituation of their affairs made them repent of the meaſures they had taken; they were very uneaſy under the continual alarms, fears, and anxieties that neceſſarily attend a ſtate of war; — add to this, a ſcarcity of proviſions began to be ſenſibly felt among them, occaſioned by the numbers that fled to them for protection from other parts of the Kingdom, where a dearth prevailed about this time: — theſe things brought the Monks to think of means to provide for their own ſafety; and upon conſulting among themſelves, they determined to ſubmit to the King, and caſt themſelves on his mercy: — but not without firſt ſounding the temper and diſpoſition of the ſoldiery, and endeavouring to perſuade the principal Officers to ſurrender the *Iſle* upon as good terms as they could make: — but finding them reſolute to ſtand upon their defence, the Abbot and ſome of the Monks retired out of the *Iſle*, and went to the King who was then at *Warwick*; and there imploring pardon, promiſed for the future to behave as his faithful and true ſubjects. The Abbot was afterwards admitted to a private audience of the King, in which he informed him of the ſtate of the *Iſle*, and the neceſſary means to be uſed to ſubdue it, promiſing at the ſame time to uſe his utmoſt endeavours to bring it under his obedience; — and then returned home. — The King being at that time intent upon fortifying ſeveral places in different parts, where he  
judged

<sup>1</sup> Petr. Bleſen. Contin. Hiſt. Ingulphi, pag. 125.



judged it necessary to have garrisons in readiness to suppress any insurrections of the people; did not immediately return to the *Isle of Ely*, which being still surrounded by his forces, he now thought himself secure of, whenever he should think fit to appear before it.

ABOUT the beginning of the year 1071, *Edwin* Earl of *Chester*, who was one of them who at first engaged in the design of holding out the *Isle* against the King, and was preparing to return thither again, was unfortunately killed in a mutiny of his own men: but his brother Earl *Morchar*, *Siward Bearn* an *English* Nobleman, and *Egelwin* Bishop of *Durham*, with several others of the *English* Nobility, arrived by shipping in the *Isle*, with reinforcements from *Scotland*. Intelligence of which being brought to the King, he hastened to bring his Army together, and marched at the head of it to carry on the siege.<sup>1</sup> The situation and nature of the place being now better known by his Engineers, he endeavoured to provide against and avoid the errors and oversights that had been committed in the former attempts. On his arrival he encamped at the same place as before, and gave orders for perfecting the Causeway over the fens, and for erecting forts and engines all the way, to secure themselves and their works, which then at an immense expence of time and labour they were obliged to carry on through a deep, watery, and moorish ground, that would scarce bear the weight of a man or any animal without sinking: but besides the badness of the soil in general, it was in many parts overgrown with sedge and reeds, which intercepted their view, and prevented them from making choice of the most advantageous course, and occasioned their being often interrupted in their way, by deep and dangerous pools of water: — these difficulties rendered the work exceeding tedious, so that the summer was far advanced before they had finished it: and the inclemency of the weather added much to the hardships of the Soldiers, and tempted them to frequent mutinies and desertions. The Causeway however was at length completed, and the Army marched onward; but found new difficulties from some deep waters which lay between them and the firm land. — Boats were now to be fetched from a distance, and dragged through the fens, in order to carry the Soldiers on a floating bridge: the Islanders were not unprepared to dispute their passage, having thrown up a strong intrenchment, and annoying them from a distance with a variety of missile weapons and stones. — The King erected batteries for the protection of his own men, and in his turn put the Islanders into frequent disorder, from which they several times rallied: — but at length through a superiority of skill in the use of military engines, victory declared for the King; — the Islanders retreated and were slaughtered in great numbers, many were taken prisoners, and some few skulked out of the *Isle*. Among the Nobility then taken were Earl *Morchar*, and *Siward* surnamed *Bearn*, who were sent Prisoners into *Normandy*, where they continued till the death of the King, A.D. 1087; *Egelwin* Bishop of *Durham*, was sent Prisoner to *Abingdon*, and died soon after. — Others the King sentenced to be imprisoned for life, some to have their eyes put out, or their hands and feet to be cut off, to remain living monuments of his displeasure, and to be a terror to such as presumed to dispute his authority.

<sup>1</sup> Chron. Saxon. — Annal. Waverl. ad annum 1071.



city. — *Hereward* only of all the Leaders in this Confederacy had the good fortune to escape with a select party of his men; he lived long enough to restore himself to the King's favour, and to recover his patrimony, dying in peace many years after, and was interred in the Monastery of *Croyland*.<sup>1</sup>

THE King immediately upon his Victory had sent a large detachment to *Ely*, to take possession of the Monastery: and himself soon after paid his devotions at the Altar of St. *Etbeldreda*, with an offering of one Mark of Gold. — The Monks were all that time strictly guarded, and kept so much in ignorance of what was transacting within their walls, that they did not suspect any thing of the King's being there, till after he was gone, they were informed of it by *Gilbert* Earl of *Clare*; from him at the same time they found that the King was highly displeased with their conduct. By his and some other Great Men's mediation the King condescended to accept of 700 Marks, which was afterwards upon a slight pretence augmented to 1000.<sup>2</sup>

## THE

<sup>1</sup> Ingulphi Hist. Croyl. p. 67, 68.      <sup>2</sup> The Camp that was occupied by the Conqueror's Army, when he besieged the Isle of *Ely*, is still visible at the South-end of *Aldreth-Causey*, within the Manor of *Wivelingham*, and is corruptly called *Belfar's Hills*. Mr. Camden speaks of it in the following terms, 'To this day there is a rampart nigh *Aldreth*, not high, but very large, called *Belfar's Hills*, from one *Belifar*; but what he was I know not.' Britan. col. 409. Ed. Gibson. — Dr. Stukeley tells us, (*Palæograph. Britan. Numb. ii. pag. 38, 129.*) It was originally a *Roman* Camp, and that it was repaired by *Urfois* [i. *Opfalus*,] Master of the Conqueror's Engines. — That the Name of that Camp was formerly *Belafis*, appears by a MS. Survey of the Manors belonging to the See of *Ely*, written in the reign of K. Henry III; and not only the Camp itself was so called, but the adjacent field and meadows were denominated from it. — The field adjoining was called *Belafis Field*; 'In campo qui vocatur *Belafis*  $\frac{xx}{6}$  and 6 acr. &c.' MS. ut supra. — The Meadow there was likewise called by the same Name: 'De prato falcabili, scilicet in *Belafis*, et alibi per particulas, 30 acr. & dimid. &c.' — We also learn from the same MS. that the Camp being very near the edge of the Fens, the ditches of it were sometimes subject to be filled with water, and then became a Fishery belonging to the Manor; 'De Piscariis, — Item ad idem manerium [scil. *Wivelingham*] pertinet piscaria in fossatis de *Belafis*, quandoque per inundationem aquarum, que pertinet ad mensam *Ballivi*, ut Jurati dicunt, &c.' ut supra. — That this Camp received its name from *Belafius* or *Belafis*, one of the Conqueror's Generals in his expedition against the Isle of *Ely*, we learn from a MS. formerly in the King's Library, MS. 18. C. 1. 3, — now in the British Museum, under this Title 'Story found in the Isle of *Ely*;' in which it is said, — 'We endured the violent threats of the Normans 7 years together, untill such tyme as *Belafius* Generall of the Kings Army in thys service, of whom certain Hylls, which at the South-end of *Aldreth Causey* were built for the safety of the Armyes, took their Names, which we nowe by corrupt Speech call *Belfars Hilles*, getting a great company of boats, passed the waters on a suddayn, and set us at our wit's ends, &c.' — Fuller met with the same account. [Ch. Hist. cent. 11. pag. 168.] — From all which it should seem, that this Camp was then first formed under the direction of *Belafius* or *Belafis* the King's General, and one of the Knights afterwards quartered upon the Monastery of *Ely*, as appears by his arms, in Plate XIII. — But that it was 'a *Roman* Camp, and repaired by *Urfois* [or *Opfalus*] Master of the Conqueror's Engines,' or that '*Aldreth-Causey* is a *Roman* way originally into the Isle of *Ely*,' as Dr. Stukely asserts, [*Palæograph. Britan. ut supra*] I have nothing to object, but that no authority is cited to support it. I should rather think, from the account above given, that *Aldreth Causey* was first made during the siege, and that it has been from time to time occasionally repaired, and so continues a common way into the Isle to this day; — For *Malmesbury* speaking of the state of the Isle, as it was in King *Edgar's* time, says it was then only accessible by Boats; — 'Non enim insula tunc nisi navigio adiri poterat; sed nostra ætas solertior vicit naturam, aggeribusque in paludem jactus tramitem præbuit, et insulam pedibus accessibilem fecit.' *Malmesb. de Gest. Pontif. Angl.* pag. 293.



THE King, for political reasons, was too much inclined to take all advantages against the *English* Nobility, the Bishops and Prelates of the Church; and had already by his own authority removed most of the *English* Noblemen from their offices in the state, and put *Normans* in their room; and though he forbore making use of his power in ejecting the Bishops and Prelates, yet he found the Pope very willing to come into all his measures, in modelling the Church; for which purpose he had sent his Legates to preside in the Council held at *Winchester*, who had deposed those who were most obnoxious to the King, and replaced them with *Normans*: and *Thurstan* our Abbot, though virtually pardoned of all transgressions against the King, by the payment, and the King's acceptance of the 1000 Marks; yet was summoned to a Council,<sup>1</sup> and called in question for some supposed male-administration or insufficiency in his office, (what it was, is not mentioned;) and it appeared, the King intended his deprivation, and had provided a Monk of *Jumiege* in *Normandy* to succeed him; but by the Abbot's prudent conduct and his irreproachable life, the design was dropped; and he subscribed to the Constitutions of that Council, with the Bishops and the rest of the Abbots there present.—He died the latter end of the year 1072, leaving his Monastery in an unsettled state, and a number of Soldiers quartered upon it, and most of its possessions without the *Isle* still in the hands of those *Normans* to whom the King had given them.

#### THEODWIN, *Abbot* VIII.

AS soon as the King was informed of the death of *Thurstan*, he sent to *Ely*,<sup>2</sup> and ordered the Plate that remained and all their most valuable effects to be seized, and brought into his Treasury; at the same time the King's Officers took away a considerable sum of Gold and Silver that the Monks had laid up at *Wintewortbe*, in order to repair the losses they had sustained, and to purchase new plate for refurnishing the Altar; and also the rich Cope given them by *Stigand* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and carried them all to the King's Treasury at *Winchester*. The King had long before fixed on THEODWIN a Monk of *Jumiege*, well known in the *Norman* Court, for the successor of *Thurstan*; and now he sent for him over, and appointed him Abbot of *Ely*. But when he came, and found that the King had seized all the most valuable furniture of the Church, he refused to accept the Office, unless the King would order all the Gold and Silver and Jewels, to be restored. The King thought fit to gratify him; the spoils of the Church were returned, and then he undertook the Charge.—The new Abbot was a foreigner, as were all those whom the King promoted to any considerable office in the Church; but it may be justly remarked, that those who were preferred by him were generally men of eminent worth and of distinguished characters; and such was *Theodwin*, one that had the welfare and splendor of his Monastery at heart.—He was present in the Council under *Lanfranc* held in *St. Paul's London*, A.D. 1075, to the Constitutions of which he subscribed;<sup>3</sup> and died the latter end of that year, on the 4th day of December,<sup>4</sup> after having been only two years and an half Abbot, and not having received the usual ceremony of Benediction.

The

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 112. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. cap. 113. <sup>3</sup> Wilkin's Concil. Mag. Brit. vol. i. p. 364.

<sup>4</sup> Obituar. Elien.



*The Administration of the Abby granted to GODFREY a Monk,  
during the Vacancy.*

**I**Mmediately after the death of *Theodwin*,<sup>1</sup> *Eudo* the Sewer, *William de Belfou*, and *Anger*, Great Officers of the King, were sent down by him to *Ely*, and in the presence of the Sheriffs made an Inventory of the Moveables of the Church, which was certified by the Abbot of *St. Edmund's-Bury*. And the King appointed *Godfrey*, one of the Monks who had been brought over from *Normandy* with *Theodwin* the late Abbot, and had under him the chief management of all affairs relating to the Monastery, to take upon him the administration of the Abby, till the King should fix on an Abbot. *Godfrey* continued to govern the Monastery in all respects as if he had been really Abbot, excepting in name, near 7 years; and was in great favour with the King, from whom he obtained many advantages to the Monastery.

IT is to the time of *Godfrey's* administration, I apprehend, that what is recorded of certain Knights and Gentlemen quartered on the Monastery, and whose Arms were afterwards set up in the Refectory or Great Hall there, is to be referred. They appear to have been most of them Gentlemen of the best Families in the Kingdom, and Officers in the King's Army, sent down by the King to be maintained, during the vacancy, at the charge of the Abby, till he could otherwise provide for them, or that he had occasion for their immediate service; and they had their refectious constantly in the Common-Hall with the Monks; with whom they lived in such perfect harmony, that when they were called away to go into *Normandy*, on the Insurrection of *Robert* the King's Son, in the year 1077, or 1078; the Monks were so well pleased with their company, that they could not part with them without regret; and when they departed, conducted them as far as *Hadenham* with solemn procession and singing; and there respectfully took their leave of them. Some further account of these Knights and Gentlemen may be seen in the Appendix, Numb. IV. and their Arms in Plate XIII.

WHILST *Godfrey* continued Administrator, the King begun to entertain more favourable sentiments towards the Monastery than he had hitherto done; to which, no doubt, the high respect that the Monks had shown to those Knights and Gentlemen the King had sent to live with them, in some measure contributed, and reconciled his mind towards them. In the mean time, the Liberties of the Church laid neglected; and some of the estates belonging to it, were still in the hands of those *Normans*, to whom the King had given them during the siege of the *Ile of Ely*; and their affairs in general were in a very precarious state.

BUT at length the King was prevailed on, to permit their Rights and Liberties to be inquired into, and legally determined; and directed <sup>2</sup> *Odo* Bishop of *Baieux*, his Brother, Chief Justiciary of *England*, to summon several of the King's Barons; and to issue out precepts to the Sheriffs of the Counties wherein the lands belonging to the Abby of *Ely* lay, to attend at a certain time and place, for that purpose. Accordingly,

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 113.    <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. lib. ii. cap. 116.



Wallingus Miles Paucis Et  
celatus, cum Tigello Monacho.



Truchet Dux Archibutneum  
cum Asperico Melonacho.



*J. H. Jewett & Company*



# THE HISTORY OF THE

Thalungus Peiles & 2 autt & r  
celitus. cum f. Bigello Monacho

**T**uchet Dux Arbututicum  
cum Obitero Monacha.

Robbrius f. 20 mactus f. 12 uil  
is. cum Ramulpho f. 12 uilabo

Lucamassus dux omnium be  
torum, cum Absalmo filio

Et tunc dicitur le d'Alençon Spect

Septembris anglus ranoie puet

*Calobates lepus* in legatione

Die 22. Junij 1771 omnis 22. Junij

*J. M. Deane*





cordingly, a very great Assembly met together at *Kentford*, now a small village in *Suffolk* bordering upon *Cambridgeshire*, on the 2d of April, A. D. 1080; where among others were present *Gosfrid* Bishop of *Constance*, *Richard* son of Earl *Gilbert*, *Heimo* the King's Sewer, [*Dapifer*,] Four Abbots, *Baldwin* of *St. Edmundsbury*, *Wlfwold* of *Chertsey*, *Ulfcbetel* of *Crowland*, and *Alfwold* Abbot of *Holme*, who are called the King's Deputies, [*Legati Regis*;] also these Sheriffs with their Officers and Attendants, *Picot* and *Eustace*, *Ralph* and *Walter* Deputies for *Roger* and *Robert*; *Hardwin de Escales*, *Wido*, *Wimer*, *Wibumer*, *Odo*, *Godric*, *Norman*, *Colfuin*, *Godwin*; also a great many other respectable Knights, [*Milites probati*,] both *French* and *English*, of the four Counties of *Essex*, *Hertford*, *Huntendon*, and *Bedford*: and there the Rights, Customs, and Liberties of the Abby were judicially examined, and fully discussed; and it was clearly proved and afterwards finally adjudged, by the Court;<sup>1</sup> That the holy Queen [*Etheldreda*] had full and entire right and dominion in her possessions from the beginning; that it appeared, by the Charter of King *Edgar*, King *Ethelred*, and King *Edward*, that these rights were restored to the Church of *Ely* by King *Edgar* at the instance of *Ethelwold* Bishop of *Winchester*, and other holy Men; so as to be clearly exempt from the interposition of all Secular Power; and that a solemn denunciation of divine vengeance is denounced against those who shall maliciously attempt to violate those Liberties. All which proceedings of the Court being certified to the King by his Barons; he was pleased to issue out his Precept to the Sheriffs of the several Counties to put the Church of *Ely* in possession of all the Rights, Customs, and Privileges it enjoyed at the time of King *Edward's* death; and as they had been solemnly adjudged, by the testimony of those Counties, before his Barons, at the Court held at *Kentford* by his Order, for that purpose.<sup>2</sup>

THESE were the chief transactions regarding the Church of *Ely*, during the administration of Monk *Godfrey*; and which tended to the re-establishing of peace and good order in the Abby, and recovering all their affairs from that confusion into which they had been brought, by the Monks opposing the Conqueror, and defending the *Isle* against him. In the year following, viz. 1081, *Godfrey* who had governed this Abby several years with great commendation, but without the Title of Abbot, or receiving Benediction; was by the King promoted to be Abbot of *Malmesbury*.

### SIMEON, Abbot IX.

ON the removal of *Godfrey* to *Malmesbury*, SIMEON Brother of *Walkelin* Bishop of *Winchester*, and Prior of that Church, was by the King made Abbot of *Ely*:<sup>3</sup> He was related in blood to the King, as is noted of his Brother the Bishop of *Winchester*; and had been educated a Monk in the Monastery of *St. Ouen* in the City of *Rouen*, and thence made Prior of *Winchester*. He was a venerable old man, when he was promoted to *Ely*, of an amiable character, being distinguished for his benevolent

<sup>1</sup> ' Ut Sancta Regina integerrime sua possedit ab initio; et Regum Ædgari, et Æthelredi, et Ædwardi comprobatur privilegiis, quod hec Sanctorum et maxime Æthelwoldi restaurata sunt studio, et ab omni Secularium potestate copiose redempta commercio; et maligne renitentibus conscripta et conclamata dampnationis imprecatio.' *ibid.* <sup>2</sup> See Appendix, Numb. V. 1. <sup>3</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 118. <sup>4</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 255.



lent temper, and charitable disposition of mind. On his coming hither, he found the affairs of the Abby still in some disorder; for notwithstanding the care that had been taken by the late Administrator, and the King's restoring their Liberties, Privileges, and Customs in all their possessions; several of the Manors and Lands belonging to it, were in the hands of some great and powerful men, who claimed them, either as having been given to them by the King, or on other pretences refused to restore them to the Church. The Abbot thereupon applied to the King; who was pleased to issue out a Precept <sup>1</sup> to *Lanfranc* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, the Earl of *Moriton*, and the Bishop of *Constance*, to summon again the several Counties, that were at the former trial of the Liberties of the Church, with as many of the King's Barons who were there present, and could conveniently be called together again; also those who were Tenants of the Church lands: — And when they were met together, to choose a competent number of those *Englishmen*, who knew what Lands belonged to the Church, when King *Edward* died; and what these declared, they were to testify on oath — After which, they were to restore to the Church all the Demeane-lands, which it was in possession of at the time of King *Edward's* death; excepting those which certain persons claimed, as having been given them by the King; concerning which, they were to certify the King, what they were, and who were then in possession of them: — And as for the Thein-lands, the Tenants of such, were to agree with the Abbot as well as they could; and if they did not choose to do so, then those lands were to remain to the Church. — This is the purport of the King's Commission; and though the proceedings on it are not set down at large; yet it appears, by several other writs <sup>2</sup> issued out afterwards, that the Abbot recovered possession of several Manors which were in the hands of some powerful men at that time, namely the Manor of *Bercham* from *Hugh de Montfort*, *Brocheseued* from *Richard* Son of Earl *Gilbert*, *Impintune* from *Picot* Sheriff of the County, Three Hides of land from *Hugh de Berners*, One Hide from *Remigius* Bishop of *Lincoln*, Two Hides from the Bishop of *Baieux* the King's Brother, besides several other parcels of Land.

As the Abbot was thus active in recovering the estates and increasing the revenues of the Abby, so did he in other respects study to raise the credit of it, and to put it into a flourishing state: his advanced age did not deter him from one great undertaking, which he could never hope to see compleated in his days. His Brother the Bishop of *Winchester* had, about four years before, begun the rebuilding of that Cathedral Church in a stately manner; and our Abbot, laid the foundation of a new and magnificent Church,<sup>3</sup> soon after his coming hither. He had affluent fortunes of his own, and the revenues of the Abby, which were great, to enable him; and he spared no pains or cost to carry on the building of his Church with vigour, and in making other improvements in the buildings of the Monastery.

In the mean time, the Abbot was the less solicitous about the ceremony of Benediction, which it was usual for all Abbots to receive soon after their appointment; which was delayed on account of a new claim made by *Remigius* Bishop of *Lincoln*, to perform that office. But as the Abby of *Ely* was exempt from the jurisdiction of the

<sup>1</sup> Appendix, Numb. V. 2.    <sup>2</sup> Appendix, Numb. V. 3, 4, 5.    <sup>3</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 118.



the Bishop of the Diocese, and had uninterruptedly enjoyed the privilege of choosing whatever Bishop they thought proper, to perform all Episcopal offices among them, the Abbot disclaimed the authority of the Bishop of *Lincoln*, and refused to receive Benediction from him. *Remigius* being a *Norman* by birth and education, and unacquainted with the customs and usages of particular Monasteries among the *English*; insisted on his common right as Bishop of the Diocese; and the Abbot as strenuously opposed it; so the matter hung in suspense two or three years: during which time the King interposed his authority, for putting an end to the dispute; but without effect. One of the King's precepts is directed to *Lanfranc* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, *Gosfrid* Bishop of *Constance*, and *Robert* Earl of *Moriton*, to prohibit *Remigius* Bishop of *Lincoln* from requiring new customs; for the King willed he should have only such as his Predecessor had in the time of King *Edward*: — by another directed to *Lanfranc*, he is commanded to view the Charters of the Abbot, and if it appears that the Abbot of *Ely* is to receive Benediction by the King's appointment; in that case, *Lanfranc* is ordered to perform that office himself: — A third is directed to *Lanfranc* Archbishop, *Gosfrid* Bishop, and Earl *Robert*, to cause *Simeon* to receive Benediction according to the Custom of the Abby, and in conformity with the King's former writs: — And by another to *Lanfranc* and *Gosfrid*; the King wills, that the Benediction of the Abbot of *Ely*, which Bishop *Remigius* demands, be respite, till the King is informed by their letters, whether *Remigius* had proved, or could prove, that his Predecessors had performed that office to the Abbots of *Ely*.<sup>1</sup>

As the ceremony of Episcopal Benediction was thought material in order to complete the character of an Abbot; and there was no likelihood of seeing an end put to the present dispute, *Simeon* also being very old and infirm; his Brother *Walkelin* Bishop of *Winchester*, not willing that he should die without it, earnestly pressed him to wave for the present the privileges of his Abby; and comply with the Bishop of *Lincoln*'s demand: to this our Abbot consented, and went without the knowledge of his Monks, and received the Benediction from him; having first obtained of him this express condition, that it should not for the future be considered as a precedent; but that every succeeding Abbot of *Ely* should have the same liberty of contesting it, and as freely as before.<sup>2</sup>

As soon as the Monks, who were very tenacious of their rights and privileges, were informed of this affair, they were much displeased with the Abbot, they censured his conduct, and carried their resentment against him so high, as to disown him for their Abbot, whom they looked upon in the invidious light of the betrayer of their Liberties: — but by the mediation of his Brother the Bishop of *Winchester*, who employed his good offices between them; and in consideration of the real worth of the Abbot, and the eminent services he had done, and was still doing for them, a reconciliation was effected.

In the year 1086, the King, having finished his general Survey of *England*, contained in *Domesday*, which is still remaining in the Exchequer at *Westminster*; com-

manded

<sup>1</sup> Appendix, Numb. V. 6, 7, 8, 9.    <sup>2</sup> Lib. Eliæ. MS. lib. ii. cap. 118.



manded the Bishops, and Abbots, and all his Barons, and others that held their lands by Knights-service to attend him at *Salisbury*<sup>1</sup> the 1st of August, with their full complement of men; and there he received of them an oath of fealty; and went afterwards to the *Ile of Wight*, and thence took shipping for *Normandy*. It was probably at this time that the tenure of Knight-service was fixed by a perpetual law on the Church; for our Author, immediately before, mentioning the King's last voyage into *Normandy*, tells us, 'The King established it by a perpetual decree, that thenceforth whenever the Kings of *England* went forth with their Army; all who held their lands by that tenure, should be ready to attend him and perform that service; and that no one of whatever degree or quality, presume to disobey this edict.'<sup>2</sup>

WHEN the tenure by Knights-service was first imposed by the King on the Church, is not certain; probably in the year 1070;<sup>3</sup> but it was then looked upon as the greater burden, because the Church-lands had been free from that and many other secular services under the *Saxon* Kings. Such Liberties and Privileges had been formerly granted to the Clergy in the earliest of those times, that their lands were wholly exempt from contributing to the expences of the Government, to which all other lands were subject: but afterwards, when by the liberality of our Kings and the Nobility, the lands given to the Church, grew considerable; the necessities of the State required the continuation of some services to which they were liable whilst in lay-hands, even after they were given to the Church; accordingly in most of the grants of land to the Church in the times of the latter *Saxon* Kings, there was a reserve of three kinds of service, that is, subsidy in time of War, and for building and repairing of Castles and Bridges; from which none were exempt, except perhaps the ancient demesns of the Church. But when the King imposed Knight-service on the Church, the Bishops and Abbots became in course his Barons,<sup>4</sup> and were to hold their lands immediately of him; in consequence of which tenure, whenever the King thought proper to raise his Army, he sent out his Writs directed to the Sheriffs of each County to summon his Barons, Spiritual as well as Temporal, to be ready at such a time and place, to perform their service in the war, according to the number of Fees he had arbitrarily imposed on them; and they were all ordinarily obliged to personal attendance on the King, with their full complement of men ready furnished with horses and arms:—unless the King pleased to excuse them, and to accept of Escuage; which was a certain sum, according to the number of fees so held, instead thereof.—Our Abbot, among many others, with the advice of his Monks, applied to the King, with the offer of any sum of money he should think fit to require, in order to be eased of this burden: but the King who had fixed the number of 40 Knights-fees on the Abby, refused to make any alteration in the measures he had taken; and ordered him without delay to provide that number of Soldiers for the custody

<sup>1</sup> Floren. Wigorn.—et Annal. Waverleien. ad annum 1087. <sup>2</sup> 'Jusserat enim tam Abbatibus quam Episcopis totius Anglie debita militie transmitti; constituitque ut extunc Regibus Anglorum jure perpetuo in expeditione Militum ex ipsis praesidia impendi; et nemo licet auctoritate plurima subnixus huic edicto presumat obistere.' Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 134. <sup>3</sup> Matth. Paris, ad annum 1070. <sup>4</sup> Selden, Titles of Honour, Part 2. chap. 5. sect. 19.



custody of the *Isle*, and to be in readiness for his service, whenever he should have occasion to demand them. — The Abbot was forced to comply, and when he returned home, according to the King's command, took into his pay the stated number of Soldiers, from among his tenants and dependants, and others who were willing to enter into his service, and furnished them with arms, and kept them in the Monastery: and all these Soldiers received their daily allowance in victuals and stipends from the Cellarer of the Abby. This method of providing for the Soldiery, was however very troublesome and inconvenient, as well as chargeable; so that the Monks soon grew tired of it; and on deliberation judged it more expedient, and for the advantage of the Abby, to set apart some of their estates for that purpose: this was done by granting divers of their Lands and Manors to be held of the Church by Knights-service;<sup>1</sup> whereby the tenants of such Lands and Manors, were obliged by their tenure, to provide such a number of Knights or Soldiers properly equipped, as their lands were severally set at; to be at the King's disposal, whenever he demanded that service of the Church. On this occasion<sup>2</sup> several of the King's Officers and great Men, who had formerly got possession of some of the Church-lands, and could not easily be dispossessed; came into a composition with the Abbot, and agreed to hold them by that tenure; among whom were *Picot* Sheriff of the County of *Cambridge*, *Roger Bigod*, *Hardwin de Escalers*, and others. — The lands thus granted became estates of inheritance to the Grantees, as long as they continued to perform their service; the Church still reserving a kind of property in them; so that on every demise, the Heir did homage to the Abbot, before he was admitted to his lands. The estates thus held of the Church, were all enrolled in a register, kept in the Monastery for that purpose, and also the Names of those who held them, together with the number of fees, or parts of fees, held by each tenant.

KING *William* the Conqueror died in *Normandy* Sept. 9, 1087, having first appointed his second Son *William* surnamed *Rufus*, to succeed him in the Crown of *England*; who was soon after crowned accordingly: during whose whole reign, the Monks of *Ely* were under continual oppression, from the corruptions that prevailed in the Court. On the insurrection that broke out the following Spring, in favour of his eldest Brother *Robert*; the new King took occasion, not only of demanding the whole military service that his Father had imposed on all the Churches, but laid a greater burden on some of them; particularly he required of the Church of *Ely*, the additional number of forty men, to be then sent to his army, so as to make up the whole number eighty; which was double the number the late King had charged on the Abby. This new and extraordinary demand of the King, greatly affected the Abbot, whose great age and infirmities now pressed hard on him; for in the seven last years of his life he grew so infirm, as scarce ever to be able to stir abroad out of the Monastery, and for some considerable time before his death was confined to his bed.

<sup>1</sup> Hence it appears that the Knights-fees fixed on the Abby by the King, were laid on the Abby-lands at large; but the charging particular estates belonging to the Abby with that service, was an act of the Abbot and Monks themselves. <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 134.



bed. He had from the time of his first coming hither set his heart on improving the buildings of the Monastery, and had now finished several new offices for the Monks; but the new Church he had begun to build, though the work was still carrying on during his life; yet it moved slowly, partly for want of sufficient means to carry it on, and partly through the neglect of those to whom the Abbot had committed the care of it; so that it remained unfinished at the time of his death; which happened on St. *Edmund's* day, November 20, 1093, after he had lived 100 years complete, and governed this Abby 13 years.

VICE and Corruption hardly ever more prevailed in the Kingdom than at this time; the King himself in all his proceedings evidenced a strong propensity both to avarice and prodigality; and his Ministers made use of every occasion that offered, to gratify those his predominant passions. His chief Minister was *Ranulf Flambard* a *Norman* of mean extraction, but bold and artful; who had the address of insinuating himself into the King's favour; and was chiefly valued by his Master, for his sagacity in the ways and means of raising extraordinary sums of money on the Subject, and filling the Exchequer. On which account the King promoted him to most of the principal Offices in the Kingdom; and made him at the same time his Chief Justiciary, and Chancellor, and intrusted him with the management of the whole revenue of the Crown. It was by his advice and persuasion, that the Temporalities of all the Bishopricks and Abbies in the patronage of the Crown were usually seized, as soon as they became vacant, and the lands and estates belonging to them oftentimes kept many years in the King's hands, being all that time let to farm, to those who would give most money for them; and were never filled again in that reign, without some simonical contract.

No sooner was the death of *Simeon* our Abbot known at Court, but *Ranulf* sent and caused an Inventory to be made of all the goods and effects belonging to the Monastery, and in the King's name took possession of the Abby-lands and estates; which were soon let to farm, and the profits thereof yearly returned to the King's Treasury; and continued so near seven years together, that is, to the day of the King's death,<sup>1</sup> which happened on the 2d of August, A. D. 1100.

HENRY the youngest Son of *William the Conqueror* succeeding to the Kingdom, was crowned by *Mauritius* Bishop of *London* and *Thomas* Archbishop of *York* on Sunday the 5th of August, 1100, being the fourth day after the death of the late King. On which day of his Coronation, he restored the Liberties of the Church, that had been so notoriously invaded by his Brother; and promised to fill the vacant Bishopricks and Abbies immediately; to abolish all the ill Customs the unjust claims and demands of the Crown, introduced in the late reign; and to restore the Laws of King *Edward*, according to the emendations made by his Father: on the same day he conferred the Abby of St. *Edmund* on *Robert* Son of *Hugh* Earl of *Chester*, and the Abby of *Ely* on *Richard*, Son of *Richard* the Son of Earl *Gilbert*.

RICHARD

<sup>1</sup> 'Die qua Rex obiit, in proprio tenebat Archiepiscopatum Cantuariensem, Episcopatus Wintoniensem et Sarisberiensem, cum duodecim Abbatiis, quas aut vendebat, aut in firmam dabat, aut in manu sua tenebat.' Matth. Paris, Hist. Angl. ad annum 1100.



RICHARD, *Abbot X.*

**R**ICHARD, Abbot of *Ely*, was a Native of *Normandy*, and descended from two of the Noblest Families in that Dukedom, that came into *England* with *William the Conqueror*. His Father *Richard* (Son of *Gilbert* Earl of *Ewe* in *Normandy*,<sup>1</sup>) had the Lordships of *Clare* in *Suffolk*, and *Tunbridge* in *Kent*, with other great possessions bestowed on him by the King, and was some time Chief Justiciary of *England*: and his Mother, whose Name was *Robesia*, was Daughter of *Walter Giffard*<sup>2</sup> Earl of *Buckingham*. *Richard* was brought up from his infancy in the Monastery of *Bec* in *Normandy*, where he very early embraced the Monastic life, was an ornament to his profession, and became eminent for his learning, especially in Philosophy and Divinity: he had continued in that Monastery about thirty years, when to the general satisfaction of the Court, both Clergy and Laity, the King promoted him on the Day of his Coronation to the Abby of *Ely*.

SOON after his promotion, *Robert Bloet* Bishop of *Lincoln* revived the claim of giving him the Benediction; and in support of it, alledged as a precedent, his Predecessor *Remigius's* giving Benediction to *Simeon* the late Abbot. But our Abbot strenuously opposed it, and insisting on the known privileges of his Monastery, refused to submit to his authority; and as to the particular instance produced, he clearly proved, that it was irregular, unjustly exacted by *Remigius*, and invalid, as being contrary to the Liberties granted to his Abby by several Royal Charters; and moreover was by express agreement, never to be urged as a precedent. At length, the Bishop not being able to make out his claim, the controversy dropped; and as it happened, the ceremony of Benediction was never more performed on any Abbot of *Ely*, either by the Bishop of *Lincoln*, or by any other Bishop whatsoever.

THE Abbot now being a little at leisure to attend the affairs of his Monastery, the privileges and liberties whereof he had been so solicitous to maintain; begun to form in his mind a plan for its future credit and welfare; of improving the Buildings; and in particular, by carrying on the New Church begun by his predecessor *Simeon*, which work had been neglected ever since his death; and also of increasing the number of Monks,<sup>3</sup> and filling the vacancies with persons of character and reputation. But whilst he was thus engaged, and taking the necessary measures for carrying his designs into execution; he found himself obliged to lay them aside for the present; being summoned to attend a General Council held at *Westminster*, in the year 1102; which, in its consequences, had like to have put it out of his power of ever resuming them.

THIS Council was held about *Michaelmas*; it was convened, (with the King's consent,) by *Anselm* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, who presided at it; most of the Bishops and Abbots of *England* were present, as usual; and besides these, the Temporal

Lords

<sup>1</sup> A descendant from Robert I. Duke of Normandy. Camd. Britt. Ed. Gibson. col. 177, 191, 370.

<sup>2</sup> The Giffards are said to have been descended from the Emperor Charles the Great. Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 280. <sup>3</sup> The stated number of Monks, in the time of the Abbots, was 70.



Lords were desired to attend, to add to the solemnity, and enforce the observance of the Constitutions of it. — Several Constitutions relating to Ecclesiastical Discipline, were accordingly enacted; The first was a revival of the ancient Canons of the Church against Simony;<sup>1</sup> which they proceeded immediately to put in execution; and several Abbots preferred in the late reign, being found guilty, were deprived of their Abbacies on that account; there were also some other Abbots deposed from their Office, not for Simony, as *Eadmer*,<sup>2</sup> who was present at this Council expressly affirms; but for some other reasons, the particulars of which he does not mention; among these latter, were *Richard* our Abbot of *Ely*, and *Robert* Abbot of *St. Edmund's*.

By the account given by our Author<sup>3</sup> of this affair, the Abbot of *Ely's* deposition was owing to the factions prevailing at that time at Court, and the envy and animosity of some great persons about the King. He tells us, That the two Noble Families, the Descendants of Earl *Gilbert*, that of *Walter Giffard* Earl of *Buckingham*, (to both which our Abbot was nearly related in blood,) made the greatest figure of any in the Kingdom at that time: they were possessed of vast estates of inheritance, and by their inter-marriages, alliances, and Family-connexions, were grown so powerful, as to raise the envy of most of the other Nobility: affecting state and magnificence in every thing about them, whenever any of them appeared abroad, at Court, or in other publick assemblies, it was with such a train of their relations, and dependants and armed servants, as seemed to strike terror, and to demand respect and deference from all persons they met; which gave occasion to frequent quarrels and disputes between their attendants, and those of other Noblemen, and created them many enemies. A strong party at Court was formed against them, ready to take advantage of any occasion that offered, to irritate the King's mind against them, by representing this haughty carriage and behaviour as an insult on Majesty itself. The Council that met this year, giving them a fair opportunity of showing their resentment; they begun with the Abbot of *Ely*, and procured three Articles to be exhibited against him; That he came to the Court with such pomp and ostentation, as was unsuitable to a person of his station and character; — That he was disobedient to the King's commands; — And was guilty of Contempt of the King, not paying him that respect and honour that he ought to have done, as all other great Men did: one particular

<sup>1</sup> Fuller, speaking of this Council remarks, 'That men guilty of Simony in the first Canon, are not taken in the vulgar acceptation, for such as were promoted to their places by money; but in a new-coined sense of that word; for those who were advanced to their Dignities by investiture from the King.' Ch. Hist. Book iii. pag. 19. — But as those who were deprived there on a Simoniacal account, had been promoted in the late Reign, when venality of Church preferments was so notorious; there is no reason to take the word in any other sense than what is usual. — Besides, if receiving by investiture their preferments had been meant; then Richard our Abbot, who received his Abby by investiture from the King, (as appears from the Pope's Letter to Anselm, *Eadmeri Hist. Nov. lib. iv. p. 87.*) had fallen under the same Censure; which is expressly denied by *Eadmer*.

<sup>2</sup> 'Absque Simonia vero remoti sunt ab Abbatibus, pro sua quisque causa, Richardus de Heli, et Robertus de Sancto Edmundo.' *Eadmeri Hist. Nov. lib. iii. pag. 67.* <sup>3</sup> Lib. Elen. MS. lib. ii. cap. 142.



ticular instance brought against him, and that might possibly be construed to have been done in contempt of the King, was, That the Abbot on some occasion or other, had ignominiously treated one of the King's servants, his Jester, who had reflected on him, so as to order him to be violently thrust out of doors.<sup>1</sup> It is difficult at this time, to find any thing that may give further light into this affair; the prosecution seems to have been intended only to mortify the Abbot's pride, and that of the two great Families, to which he was related. However, matters were so ordered, that Sentence of Deprivation was passed on him. *Richard*, who thought the Sentence unjust, appealed from it to the Court of *Rome*; and being ordered to deliver up his Pastoral Staff, refused to surrender it to the King; but immediately set out for *Ely*, and with the consent of the Monks, laid it up in the Church.

As the Rite of *Investiture* gave occasion to great disputes and animosities between the King and Archbishop *Anselm*, about this time, and had some influence on all publick affairs; it will not be improper just to touch upon it. — It had long been the Custom of our Kings, in disposing of the Bishopricks and Abbies in their patronage, to give the person elected, possession of his preferment by Investiture, that is, by the ceremony of delivering to him a Ring and Pastoral Staff. This Custom, as having the appearance of conferring spiritual authority, though perhaps intended only as the means of putting the Elect in possession of the Temporalities annexed to his Office; had lately been condemned in the Council of *Clermont*, under Pope *Urban II.* A.D. 1095; — and in another Council held at *Rome* under the same Pope, in 1099, (at which *Anselm* was present,) it was declared, that all Laymen who conferred any Ecclesiastical Benefice or Preferment in that manner, were excommunicated; and further, that all persons so invested, and they who consecrated them, were put under the same censure. The same year *Urban* died, and was succeeded in the Papacy by *Paschal II.* — *Anselm*, being recalled from banishment by the King, in the first year of his reign; came home a zealous advocate for the Canons of those Councils: but the King, considering Investiture as part of his prerogative, seemed resolved to defend his right; unwilling however, to come to an open rupture with the Archbishop, was in hopes of finding out some expedient to induce the new Pope to consent to the ancient usage of the Kings of *England*. Thus the matter rested till the Pope's resolution could be known; for which reason, no notice is taken of this controversy in the Council of *Westminster*, A.D. 1102; as may appear both from *Eadmer's* account of it,<sup>2</sup> who was there present; and also from the Canons themselves there enacted.<sup>3</sup> In the mean time, the King receiving no satisfactory answer from *Rome*, went on as usual, in giving Investiture to those who were elected to vacancies; and the Archbishop in refusing to consecrate any of those who were so invested; except *William Giffard* Elect of *Winchester*, who had been invested by the King, before

*Anselm's*

<sup>1</sup> 'Quod Abbas in sua generositate sic fideret, quod quendam mimum ejus [i.e. Regis] sibi convitiantem, turpiter e domo sua eiceret.' Ibid. <sup>2</sup> Eadmeri Hist. lib. iii. pag. 67. <sup>3</sup> Concilia Mag. Brit. vol. i. pag. 382.



*Anselm's* return to *England*: but the King would not consent to it, unless he would also consecrate the others who had been invested since; and this the Archbishop refused to comply with. Whereupon the King applied to *Gerard* Archbishop of *York* to consecrate them, who readily undertook to perform that Office; but then *William Giffard* Elect of *Winchester* would not receive consecration, except from the hands of *Anselm*; which so incensed the King, that he ordered him to leave the Kingdom, and his Estates to be confiscated. To end these disputes, it was proposed that new Envoys should be sent to *Rome*; the King also desired *Anselm* to go himself, and try if he could persuade the Pope to allow the King's right to Investitures, as his ancient and royal Prerogative. *Anselm*, though unwillingly, set out for *Rome* in the month of April 1103, being accompanied by the Elect of *Winchester*, and two of the Abbots deposed in the late Council of *Westminster*, *Richard* Abbot of *Ely*, and *Aldwin* of *Ramsay*.<sup>1</sup> On their arrival at *Rome*, they met with a gracious reception from the Pope; and a day was fixed for the King's business; which was soon determined, by the Pope's refusing to make the concessions required.<sup>2</sup> After which another day was appointed for hearing the cause of the deposed Abbots: and after the hearing, on *Anselm's* recommendation of the Abbot of *Ely* to the Pope, he was pleased to reverse the Sentence passed upon him in the Council of *Westminster*; in consequence of which, he received a Bull, for restoring him to his former Dignity, and prepared for his return to *England*. Before our Abbot left *Rome*, he happened to be present, when the Archbishop having a private audience of the Pope, spoke some words highly reflecting on the King; not doubting but the Abbot would have confirmed what he had said; however, contrary to his expectation, the Abbot vindicated the King from those aspersions cast on him, and showed that what the Archbishop had advanced, proceeded from false rumours and misrepresentation.<sup>3</sup> This incident, of which the King was informed before the Abbot returned to *England*, opened the way for a perfect reconciliation of the King's mind towards him; so that when he arrived, and waited on the King, he met with uncommon marks of his favour and good-will; and again received Investiture<sup>4</sup> of his Abby from the King. Being thus both by the Royal and Papal authority fully restored to his former Dignity, our Abbot to his own entire satisfaction returned to *Ely*, and was received by his Monks with the greatest respect and demonstrations of joy.

THE

<sup>1</sup> Floren. Wigorn. ad annum 1103,    <sup>2</sup> This controversy between the King and the Pope, continued till the year 1107, when the King was induced solemnly to renounce his right to give Investiture in the usual way of delivering the Pastoral Staff and Ring; reserving to himself only the Homage of Bishops and Abbots on their Election. Eadmeri Hist. Nov. lib. iv. pag. 91.    <sup>3</sup> Radulph. de Diceto Abbrev. Chron. inter X Scriptores, col. 499. — Angl. Sacr. vol. ii. pag. 686.    <sup>4</sup> That Richard received Investiture from the King after his return from Rome, appears by the Pope's Letter to Anselm, wrote in the year 1106; wherein he commands him to abstain from Communion with the Abbot of Ely, so long as he kept his Abby, which he had invaded by repeated investiture from the King, notwithstanding he had been present and heard the Interdiction of Lay-investiture from the Pope's own mouth. Eadmeri Hist. Nov. lib. iv. pag. 87. — Though in a subsequent Letter wrote in May 1107. the Pope, at the instance of the King, who had wrote to him in favour of the Abbot, leaves it to Anselm's discretion to admit the Abbot to Communion. Ibid. pag. 91.



THE present state of his affairs affording him leisure and opportunity, he resumed the work he had already made provision for, and had in part entered upon before his troubles, that of carrying on the new Church begun by his predecessor *Simeon*; <sup>1</sup> to which he applied himself with the utmost diligence and attention of mind; insomuch that thenceforward he was continually employed in it to the time of his death; but he was the more anxious about the prosecution of this work, because he fully intended to have the Bodies of *St. Etheldreda* and the other Saints translated thither; and was above all things desirous of seeing it done in his life-time. <sup>2</sup>

IN the year 1106, the Eastern part of the Church being finished and made convenient for the performance of Divine Service in it; our Abbot began to make preparations for a solemn translation of the Saints out of the old Church into the new; the day fixed for it, was October the 17th, being the day of *St. Etheldreda's* former translation; and many respectable and eminent persons both of the Clergy and Laity were invited; among whom were *Anselm* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and several of the Bishops. The Archbishop however, did not come; and several others that were invited, excused themselves. On the day appointed, there were present *Herbert* Bishop of *Norwich*, *Aldwin* Abbot of *Ramsay*, *Richard* Abbot of *St. Alban's*, *Gunter* Abbot of *Thorney*, and *Wido* Abbot of *Pershore*, *Nicholas* Archdeacon of *Lincoln*, and many other respectable persons who met together, and joined the Abbot and Monks of *Ely*; all of them going in orderly and solemn procession into the Old Church, where the body of *St. Etheldreda* lay inshrined in her Marble Coffin; and there waiting with great reverence and devotion, whilst preparations were making for removing the Coffin; as soon as every thing was ready for conveying the Body, they returned in like manner, going before it with singing and praise, into the New Church, where it was deposited over against the High Altar, in the place before-hand prepared to receive it. After which *Herbert* Bishop of *Norwich*, made a most eloquent and pathetick discourse to the congregation, on the Life and Death, and Miracles, and the wonderful incorruption of the body of *St. Etheldreda*; which finished that part of the solemnity. In like manner were the three remaining Bodies of *St. Sexburga*, *St. Ermenilda*, and *St. Witburga*, removed the same day, and translated into the New Church, and placed in the following order:—*Sexburga* more Eastward, or at the feet of *Etheldreda*; *Ermenilda* on the South-side, that is on the right hand; and *Witburga* on the North-side, or the left hand of *Etheldreda*: on the West, fronting the Tomb of *Etheldreda*, was there an Altar raised, which was called after her Name, *St. Etheldreda's* Altar. Our Abbot having thus far succeeded in his wishes, did not however intermit his zeal for going on with the building of the Church; though his attention was a little diverted from that work, by other business; and particularly by his care, at the same time, for securing the rights and privileges of his Abby; which he apprehended were still precarious, whilst the claim that the Bishop of *Lincoln* had made, of giving him Benediction, was in suspense,

not

<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 143.    <sup>2</sup> Ibid. cap. 144.



not having been legally determined. He thought therefore, that the most effectual way to prevent any future claim of that kind, would be to procure his Abby to be converted into a Bishoprick. He had been in high favour with the King ever since his return from *Rome*, and was at this time one of his principal Counsellors; which gave him the advantage of frequent access to the King, and opportunity of proposing to him the scheme of erecting a Bishop's See in the Abby of *Ely*; and this he first communicated to the King at a private audience, with such good address; that he soon obtained his approbation and consent to it: and thereupon messengers were immediately dispatched to *Rome*, to solicit the Pope's assent.—Thus far our Abbot had succeeded in the plan he had formed of advancing himself, and raising his Church to an higher degree of honour; but before he could see it accomplished, death put an end to that, and all his further views: for he was seized with a sickness, which he found was in a little time likely to prove mortal; on which, he desired that all his Monks should be sent for to come into his presence; and after they were assembled, he made an humble confession of his sins, and received the Holy Sacrament with them; and soon after breathed out his last. He died on the 16th day of June 1107;<sup>1</sup> and was the following day buried honourably in his Church.—The messengers that had been sent to *Rome*, to prosecute the affair of the intended Bishoprick, being informed of his death, stopped all further proceedings in that business, and returned home.

RICHARD, who was the last Abbot of *Ely*, as he was noble by descent, so had he a greatness of mind becoming his birth. His carrying on the building of the Church, of which his predecessor *Simeon* had laid the foundation, has been mentioned before:—how far our Abbot proceeded in that work, is not certain; but as the Choir which he finished, extended from the East-end through the great Cross, and took in also two Arches of the Nave; it is highly probable, that the whole East-end, with the Cross, and Tower in the intersection of the Cross, and those two Arches at least, were compleated in his time; and if we may rely on the opinion of our Author, who wrote in the reign of *Henry I*, as I apprehend, and before the West-end was built; this Church was then for Composition, exquisite skill in the Construction of it, and for elegance of the form, equal, if not superior to any Building in the Kingdom.<sup>2</sup> It must also be added, that he gave to his Church variety of rich furniture; and moreover, laid the foundation of the honour which was two years after conferred on his Abby, that of being raised to an Episcopal See.

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<sup>1</sup> Floren. Wigorn. ad annum.    <sup>2</sup> ‘— Ut ad perficiendum idem opus [Ricardus Abbas] studio-  
 ‘ sius insisteret, ut huic operi solum vacaret, totum studium specialiter admovit; tamque decenti  
 ‘ forma et quantitate quantum potuit, quoad vixit, ecclesiam a Predecessore suo inceptam edificavit;  
 ‘ ut si fama non invidet, et merito et veritatis titulo, (utpote mendax veritatem non detrahat,) in  
 ‘ eodem Regno cunctis ecclesiis vel antiquitus constructis, vel nostro tempore renovatis, jure quodam  
 ‘ compositis [l. compositionis] et subtilis artificii privilegio et gratia ab intuentibus merito videatur  
 ‘ preferenda.’ Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 143.



*The Administration of the Abby, granted to HERVEY Bishop of Bangor, during the Vacancy.*

AFTER the death of *Richard* the last Abbot of *Ely*, HERVEY Bishop of *Bangor* in *Wales*, at that time residing at the *English* Court, was sent down by the King, to take upon him the administration of the Abby, till another Abbot should be appointed.<sup>1</sup> *Hervey* was consecrated Bishop of that See by *Thomas I.* Archbishop of *York*, during the vacancy of the See of *Canterbury*, by the death of *Lanfranc*.<sup>2</sup> His strict discipline whilst he governed his Church, and endeavoured to advance the morals of the *Welsh*, was by no means well adapted to the untractable temper of that people; for finding that his Ecclesiastical censures had no effect on them, he thought it necessary to make use of armed force, to effectuate his judicial proceedings, and reduce them to order: but these rigorous measures served only to inflame them the more, and raised such a spirit of opposition to him, as came at length to an open rupture and defiance. In one of those popular insurrections, a Brother of the Bishop and many of his attendants and servants were slain, and the Bishop himself narrowly escaped the same fate. To avoid these dangers that threatened him, the Bishop fled, and came to the King of *England* for protection: and as he was well known at the *English* Court, and respected there on account of his abilities and learning, the King received him kindly, and took him under his protection. In the mean time, the Abby of *Ely* falling vacant, the King sent him down thither, to take upon him the Administration of it, and to be there provided for, till he could determine what to do in his affair.

HERVEY, whilst he resided at *Ely*, neglected no opportunity of ingratiating himself with the Monks;<sup>3</sup> and by his address, and courteous behaviour to them, daily gained upon their affection and esteem; which by every prudent means that he could think of, he endeavoured to improve, and turn to his own advantage. The design that had been formed of converting this Abby into a Bishoprick, he knew, had failed of success only by the death of *Richard* the late Abbot; and he ardently wished to see it revived. In order to which, in conversation with the Monks, he frequently hinted in general terms at the honour and advantage it would have been to them, in case it had been carried into execution; representing the fitness and convenience of the place for that purpose, in such a manner as to draw their attention, and lead their inclinations that way: he afterwards proceeded in making them large promises, and offered them his best service and endeavours to accomplish the design, if they would give their consent, and accept him for their Bishop. The Monks seeming in no wise averse to it, but rather to acquiesce in every thing he had proposed; *Hervey*, without waiting for their formal consent, applied to the King, who

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<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. i. — Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 678. <sup>2</sup> Stubbs; X Scriptores, col. 1707.  
<sup>3</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. i.



approved of the motion. — But as the Bishop of *Lincoln* had laid claim to some kind of jurisdiction even within the *Isle of Ely*, which matter had never been legally settled; and moreover, as the rest of the County of *Cambridge*, proposed to be taken in, to constitute a Diocese for the new Bishop, was undoubtedly part of the Bishop of *Lincoln's* Diocese, and could not consistently with justice be taken from him without his knowledge and consent, and likewise a compensation made him, for giving up that part of his jurisdiction; *Hervey* found it necessary in the next place, to consult him about it: accordingly having obtained a private conference with *Robert* then Bishop of *Lincoln*, it was agreed and concluded between them, that the Manor of *Spaldwick* in *Huntingdonshire*, then part of the possessions of the Abby of *Ely*, should be given up and conveyed to *Robert* and his Successors for ever, in exchange for his jurisdiction within the County of *Cambridge*.

WHEN the affair of fixing a new Bishoprick at *Ely*, had proceeded thus far, the King thought proper to lay it before the Council assembled at *London* in Whitsuntide 1108, as we are informed by *Eadmer*; <sup>1</sup> who, immediately after relating the principal transactions of that Council, informs us of another affair which came under their consideration at the same time; and that was the extensiveness of the Diocese of *Lincoln*, which was generally thought by much too large and burdensome for the superintendency of one Bishop: it was therefore concluded by the King, the Archbishop and the other Great Men of the Kingdom, that the interest of Religion required, that another Bishoprick should be taken out of it, whose See should be fixed in the Abby of *Ely*.

BESIDES these considerations which more particularly regard religion, the King, we are told, <sup>2</sup> had further views in this transaction, and was in some measure influenced by political motives; he considered the *Isle of Ely* as a place of importance, not only for the great wealth of the Abby; but also on account of the situation of it, being strongly fortified by nature; and therefore capable of being turned to the disadvantage of the government; which danger he apprehended might in some measure be guarded against, by dividing the revenues, and placing a Bishop in the Abby. However, the approbation and consent of the Pope, *Anselm* thought necessary to confirm their proceedings; to obtain which, the King himself and *Anselm* wrote severally to him about it. *Anselm* in his Letter informs his Holiness, ‘ That a Council being lately held at *London*, the King, and Bishops, and Great Men, and other prudent and religious persons of the Kingdom, had taken into their consideration the state of the Bishoprick of *Lincoln*; which appeared to them to be so extensive, that one Bishop was not sufficient to perform all the Episcopal office in it; and had all concurred in their opinion, that the interest of Religion required, that it should be divided, and another Bishoprick erected within it, the See whereof should be placed in the Abby of *Ely*; it was not intended that the Monks should be excluded, but they were designed to continue there, according to the constitution of other  
Bishop-

<sup>1</sup> Hist. Nov. lib. iv. pag. 96.    <sup>2</sup> Petri Blefensis contin. Hist. Ingulphi, pag. 117.



Bishopricks in *England*,<sup>1</sup> where Monks resided, and not Canons; — that *Robert* the present Bishop of *Lincoln* had given his consent, and declared himself well satisfied with the recompense that was to be made him and his See, out of the possessions of the Abbey of *Ely*: — desiring therefore his assent to what things they had done in it, and to confirm them by his authority.’ This is the substance of *Anselm*’s letter to the Pope, which *Eadmer* has preserved in his History of those times;<sup>2</sup> but though he has omitted to insert the King’s letter, wrote on the same occasion; the purport of it will fully appear from the Pope’s Answer to it, which the reader may find in the Appendix.<sup>3</sup> *Hervey* having received his instructions both from the King and *Anselm*, set out for *Rome*, carrying the King’s and the Archbishop’s Letters to the Pope. The chief business on which he was sent, as far as we can collect from those Letters, was to procure the Pope’s assent to, and confirmation of what had been settled before in the Council of *London*, viz. the erecting a Bishoprick at *Ely*: but it does not appear that either the King or *Anselm* had mentioned *Hervey* to the Pope, as the person designed for that new See. However, he managed the affair with such prudence and dexterity, as to ingratiate himself highly in the Pope’s favour; who not only confirmed the See at *Ely*, but gave him also letters of recommendation to the King and the Archbishop, expressed in general terms, to provide for him, in case of a vacancy in any one of the Bishopricks.

ON his return from *Rome*, *Hervey* brought with him four Letters from the Pope; two to the King, one to *Anselm*, and the other directed to *Anselm* and all the Bishops of his Province: they are Dated on the 11<sup>th</sup> of the Calends of December, i.e. November 21, [1108.] In the first of them, after the usual benediction and some compliments of commendation of the King, the Pope goes on thus, ‘You desire of us by your Letters, that a new Bishoprick may be constituted, by Authority of the Apostolick See, at *Ely*; because, you say, the Bishoprick of *Lincoln* is so very extensive, that one Bishop is not sufficient to perform the whole Duty, that properly belongs to his function. — We both commend your pious zeal, and readily give our assent to it; — yet so that it be fixed in a place of some note, that the honour due to the Episcopal character may be supported. For a Bishop is constituted and appointed to this end; to instruct the people of God, both by his Life and Doctrine, and to win the souls of those committed to his charge, to our Lord the true Shepherd. With regard to your other requests, though they seem somewhat irregular, yet we would by no means refuse to comply with your desire. — Furthermore, it is well known to your Highness, that *Hervey*, a Bishop commendable both for his good life and learning, has by persecution and the barbarous treatment

<sup>1</sup> ‘ — In Anglia sunt hodie xvii Episcopatus, in octo eorum sunt Monachi in Sedibus Episcopalibus. Hoc in aliis provinciis aut nusquam aut raro invenies; sed ideo in Anglia hoc reperitur, quia primi prædicatores Anglorum S. Augustinus, Mellitus, Justus, Laurentius Monachi fuerant. In aliis novem Episcopalibus sedibus Canonici Seculares.’ Annal. Waverleiens. ad an. 1152.  
<sup>2</sup> *Eadmeri Hist.* Nov. lib. iv. p. 96. — See Appendix, Numb. VI. 1. <sup>3</sup> Numb. VI. 2, 3.



‘ment he has met with, been driven from his See, and after the slaughter of his  
 ‘Brothers and Servants, been forced to save himself by flight. — We desire therefore  
 ‘and entreat your Highness; that if any Church should happen to be vacant, he  
 ‘may be preferred to it, by authority of the Apostolick See; that so the talents of  
 ‘one that is so well qualified to do service to religion, may not remain useless and  
 ‘unemployed.’<sup>1</sup>

IN the Pope’s second letter to the King, he says, ‘We received your Letters  
 ‘which were highly pleasing to us, as they show your zealous affection to St. *Peter*  
 ‘and to us his Servants; — we do the more readily grant your requests, as we are  
 ‘persuaded what you desire is done out of zeal for Religion. As to the affair you  
 ‘was pleased to intimate privately to us, we have had a particular regard to it. And  
 ‘indeed, in every thing, as far as is consistent with our duty to God, we are studious  
 ‘to promote the honour and dignity of your Highness. — Also in respect to the ex-  
 ‘change your Highness is pleased to recommend to our consideration, by our bro-  
 ‘thers Bishop *Hervey* and *Peter* our Chamberlain; — if what you propose, will be, as  
 ‘you say, for the advantage of the Church; we readily give our assent. — We  
 ‘heartily recommend our said brother Bishop *Hervey*, (for whom we perceive you  
 ‘have a regard,) to your Highness.’<sup>2</sup>

THE third letter is to *Anselm*, and is chiefly taken up in recommending *Hervey* to  
 be provided for, in case of a vacancy, in consideration of his great merits, and the  
 barbarous treatment he had met with; and more particularly, on account of his di-  
 ligence and fidelity in the business *Anselm* had committed to his charge.<sup>3</sup>

THE Pope’s last letter is directed to *Anselm* and all the Bishops of his Province;  
 in which, after the usual greeting and benediction, he thus proceeds, ‘Among all  
 ‘the Kingdoms of the world, both the Evidences of the Apostolick See, and the  
 ‘concurrent testimony of the *English* History, do plainly prove, that the Kingdom  
 ‘of *England* is in an especial manner entitled to the love and indulgence of the  
 ‘Apostolick See. Which consideration inclines us to take the Churches of that  
 ‘Kingdom under our protection, and the more solicitously to attend to the disposal  
 ‘of them. — We are informed, both by the Letters of the King our Son, and also  
 ‘by your’s, That the Bishoprick of *Lincoln* is so large, that one Bishop is not suffi-  
 ‘cient to perform the duties of the Episcopal office in it: for which cause our said  
 ‘dear Son and most Christian King of *England* *Henry*, with the consent of the Bishop  
 ‘of *Lincoln*, desires of us, that a new Bishoprick may be erected in it, by permission  
 ‘of the Apostolick See, in a certain place called *Ely*. To whose requests, because  
 ‘they seemed to flow from motives of piety, we have freely given our assent; and  
 ‘do grant licence of constituting a Bishoprick in the said place; Decreeing that the  
 ‘Episcopal See so constituted in the aforesaid place, shall continue there henceforth  
 ‘for ever; and also that the Diocese, which your Fraternity, [*vestra fraternitas*,] to-  
 ‘gether with the Bishop of *Lincoln*, under the direction of the King, shall annex to  
 ‘the

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix, Numb. VI. 2.    <sup>2</sup> Appendix, Numb. VI. 3.    <sup>3</sup> Appendix, Numb. VI. 4.



‘ the said Bishoprick, shall for ever so remain. Moreover, concerning the Monastery  
 ‘ in which this Episcopal See is constituted, we Decree that the Custom of other  
 ‘ *English* Monasteries, in which there are Bishops appointed, be duly observed and  
 ‘ maintained.’ <sup>1</sup>

THE exact time when *Hervey* returned to *England* with these Letters is not mentioned; whether at the latter end of the year 1108, or the beginning of the following year; however, it is evident, notwithstanding the strong recommendations he brought with him from the Pope, that he did not get possession of the Bishoprick of *Ely*, till late in the year 1109.<sup>2</sup> The occasion of that delay was probably owing to the King’s absence at that time, and to the death of Archbishop *Anselm*, who died April 21, that year.<sup>3</sup> The King was in *Normandy* all the Winter of the year 1108, and did not return to *England* till a little before Whitsuntide 1109;<sup>4</sup> at which time he kept his Court at *London* with extraordinary splendour, and received the Ambassadors of the Emperor, who came to demand the Princess *Matilda* the King’s eldest Daughter in marriage; which was then concluded on; and the King demanded on that occasion three shillings on every Hide of land, from his Subjects. The Bishops attending the Court as usual, the King also took that opportunity of consulting them on the case of *Thomas II* Elect of *York*, who had delayed or refused to make profession of Canonical obedience to the See of *Canterbury*, and therefore was not yet Consecrated. Here it was determined by the King and all the Bishops, that he must submit, or else quit his pretensions to his See. He chose therefore to submit, and promised to make such profession of Canonical obedience to the See of *Canterbury* as his Predecessors had done. On which, a Day was fixed for his Consecration, which was the 27th of June following: at which time *Richard* Bishop of *London*, *William* Bishop of *Winchester*, *Ralph* Bishop of *Rochester*, *Herbert* Bishop of *Norwich*, *Ralph* Bishop of *Chichester*, *Ranulph* Bishop of *Durham*, and *Hervey* Bishop of *Bangor*, met together at *St. Paul’s Church London*, for the Consecration of the said *Thomas* Elect of *York*, who was then consecrated accordingly, and made profession of Canonical obedience to the Metropolitan Church of *Canterbury*, in the presence of all those Bishops, and of *Conrade* Prior of the Church of *Canterbury* and many Monks of the same.<sup>5</sup>

THESE were all affairs of moment, that took up the King’s attention about this time; and may very well account for the delay *Hervey* met with, before he could procure his full Translation to *Ely*. *Eadmer* takes notice of this circumstance, and tells us,<sup>6</sup> that notwithstanding *Hervey*’s great assiduity and constant attendance on the Court, he was not able to effect his purpose, till towards the end of the year 1109; but he assigns no reason for it. Mr. *Wharton* however, thinks he has found out

<sup>1</sup> Appendix, Numb. VI. 5. <sup>2</sup> Our Author [Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 5.] by mistake, sets down 1108, for the year in which the See of *Ely* was erected; the occasion of which mistake will be accounted for, in the Appendix, Numb. VIII. <sup>3</sup> Floren. Wigorn. ad annum 1109. <sup>4</sup> Annal. Waverl. ad annos 1108, & 1109. <sup>5</sup> Eadmeri Hist. Nov. lib. iv. pag. 104. — Matth. Westm. & Floren. Wigorn. ad annum 1109. <sup>6</sup> Eadmeri Hist. Nov. lib. iv. pag. 104.



out the cause, and supposes it was owing to the Pope's not giving his assent to erecting the See of *Ely*; which being manifestly inconsistent with the above-cited Letters of the Pope to the King, and to the Bishops of England, he goes on without any rational ground to suspect that these Letters are not genuine. But I reserve the consideration of the genuineness of those Letters, to another place,<sup>1</sup> in which the occasion of Mr. *Wharton's* mistake will be pointed out, and set in a clear light. In the mean time I shall only observe, that about the latter end of Autumn in the year 1109, the King being then at the Castle of *Nottingham* held a great Council; in which were present *Matilda* the Queen, *Matilda* the King's Daughter then espoused to the Emperor, *Thomas II* Archbishop of *York*, and most of the Bishops and Temporal Nobility of *England*; and there the King granted his Royal Charter for converting the Abby of *Ely* into a Bishoprick. The Charter<sup>2</sup> sets forth, 'That the King having taken into his consideration the state of his Kingdom of *England*, and finding that the harvest was great but the labourers few, and therefore the labour too much upon them; and particularly the Church [*i. e.* the Diocese] of *Lincoln* was very full of people; — He had by the authority and advice of Pope *Paschal*, with the assent and at the request of *Robert* then Bishop of *Lincoln* and his Chapter, and with the approbation of *Anselm* Archbishop of *Canterbury* of blessed memory, and of *Thomas II* Archbishop of *York*, and of all the Bishops and Abbots of *England*, and of all the Great men of his Kingdom, — erected the Monastery of *Ely*, (in which Abbots had presided to his time,) with the County of *Cambridge*, namely, as much as did heretofore belong to the jurisdiction of the Church of *Lincoln*, including the two Abbies of *Thorney* and *Chateriz*, into an Episcopal See, in as free and absolute a manner in all respects as the other Bishopricks of his Kingdom, and to be for ever absolved from all subjection to, and all Episcopal claims of, the See of *Lincoln*; and with the advice and assent of the aforesaid Pope *Paschal*, did convey and make over the village of *Spaldwick* in the County of *Huntendon*, part of the possessions of the said Monastery, with all its rights and appertenances, to the Church of *Lincoln*, and to *Robert* Bishop of the same See, and to his Successors for ever, in as free and ample a manner as ever the Monastery of *Ely* held and enjoyed it.' — And then it concludes thus, 'This business was first moved at *London* in the Feast of Pentecost at *Westminster*, and debated in my presence, and before Archbishop *Anselm* of blessed memory, and all the Bishops, and Abbots, and Great men of my Kingdom, and obtained the common consent of them all: And after the death of the aforesaid Archbishop *Anselm*, (by the authority of Lord Pope *Paschal*, as is above said,) was by the mercy of God, happily concluded and determined in the Council held at the Castle of *Nottingham* on the Feast of the Translation of *St. Etheldreda* the Virgin, namely on the 16th day of the Calends of November.'<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Appendix, Numb. VIII. <sup>2</sup> See the Charter in the Appendix, Numb. VII. <sup>3</sup> It is proper here to inform the Reader, that the genuineness of this Charter has unjustly been impeached, and the credit of it called in question by Mr. Selden, [*Seldeni in Eadmerum Notæ et Spicilegium*, pag. 212.] and by Mr. Wharton, [*Angl. Sacr.* vol. i. pag. 678, note *a.*] but wholly owing to their mistake



IN *Anselm's* Letter to the Pope abovesaid, <sup>1</sup> he proposes that the Monks of *Ely* should continue to reside in the Monastery, when the Abby should be converted into a Bishoprick; agreeably to the constitution of other Bishopricks in *England* of that sort:—And in the Pope's Answer, which is directed to *Anselm* and all his provincial Bishops, he decrees, concerning the Monastery of *Ely*, that the custom of other *English* Monasteries, in which there were Bishops appointed, be duly observed and maintained. <sup>2</sup>—It is to be noted therefore, that the Episcopal Sees in this Kingdom, with respect to the Societies that lived on them, were of two kinds; in some of them, the Ecclesiasticks belonging to and residing at the Cathedral Church, consisted of Secular Canons, of whom the chief was the Dean; and this Society was the Bishop's Chapter, and ordinarily his standing Council, with whom he consulted in the administration of his Diocese:—In other Episcopal Sees, there were Monks only who resided at the Cathedral Church, in which the Prior, who was their Chief, and the Monks, constituted the Chapter; these were called Conventual Cathedrals; and seem to have been almost peculiar to the *English* Church; for the Author of the *Annals of Waverley* observes, [ad annum 1152,] 'There were then seventeen Bishopricks in *England*, in eight of which Monks resided; this (says he) you will seldom meet with in other Countries; but so it was in *England*, because the first Preachers among the *English*, namely, *Augustin*, *Mellitus*, *Iustus* and *Laurentius*, were all of them Monks: but in the other nine Sees, there are Secular Canons.' The Conventual Cathedrals hinted at by this Author, were *Canterbury*, *Winchester*, *Worcester*, *Bath*, *Rochester*, *Norwich*, *Ely*, and *Durham*; in which Sees the Bishops were also as Abbots: and as all these Cathedrals consisted of Monks of the Benedictine Order, or such as professed to follow the Rule instituted by St. *Benedict*, which was the basis on which their other local Statutes and Ordinances were founded; they had nearly the same usages and customs in each of them: so that an account of any one of them will be sufficient to convey a general knowledge of the form of government established in them all.

As to the Church of *Ely* in particular; on the change of the Abby into a Bishoprick, the Bishop's authority over the Monks did not wholly cease; for though the immediate government of the Monks devolved on the Prior; yet the Bishop in all respects was still considered as their Abbot or Superior; as appears by the Letter of Archbishop *Lanfranc* to the Prior of Canterbury which is prefixed to his Constitutions; <sup>3</sup> his place in the Church was the first Stall on the right-hand, the same that the Abbots had formerly used; he presided in the Chapter-house and in all their

mistake of the true Date of the Charter; as I shall endeavour to show, in a particular Dissertation and Defence of it, which will be inserted in the Appendix, Numb. VIII.

<sup>1</sup> Page, 120. <sup>2</sup> Page, 121. <sup>3</sup> 'Inde nemo turbetur, quod in tractatu earum consuetudinum nomen Abbatis tantum, non Episcopi vel Archiepiscopi ponitur; Ordo enim Monachorum describitur, quorum per Abbates frequentius quam per Antistites vita disponitur; quamvis et ipsi Antistites, si paternam curam vice Christi subjectis suis impendant, non absurde Abbates, id est Patres, congruo suis actibus vocabulo appellari queant.' Concil. Mag. Brit. per Wilkins, vol. i. pag. 329.



their publick assemblies, whenever he thought proper: he still retained the power of appointing and displacing several of the chief Officers of the Monastery; and the power of prescribing further rules and ordinances for their behaviour.

BEFORE we come to give a series of the Bishops and other Dignitaries of this Church, it will not be improper here to take a general view of the Convent, and give an account of the several members it consisted of, and the principal Officers belonging to it. The whole Convent regularly consisted of seventy Monks; for that number had usually been in the time of the Abbots, and was designed to have continued after the Change; and is frequently referred to, as the stated number, in their Statutes; however, it was seldom complete: generally there were about fifty in the Monastery. They had all one common Hall or Refectory, where they had their refectiions or meals; and one common Dormitory divided into cells, in which they all took their rest; except the principal Officers, who had separate apartments assigned them, within the precincts of the Monastery, and kept a kind of family of servants and attendants by themselves.

THE PRIOR was the Chief Officer in the Monastery, (nevertheless in subordination to the Bishop:) he may be called the *Custos* of the Order; being appointed to superintend all the inferior Officers and Members of the Society; to see that every one in their several places and stations regularly performed their duty, according to their Rule, and the local Statutes and Ordinances that were given them. He had his Hall, Chambers, Study, and other apartments, which were called the Prior's lodgings; a private Chapel, with Chaplains to attend him; a Kitchen also and other offices, with Servants and attendants, distinct from the common ones of the Society: and presided in great state, being usually called Lord Prior. This chief Officer seems to have been at first put in, and removable by the Bishop; but was afterwards elected by the Monks; who were only obliged on every vacancy to apply to the Bishop for his leave to proceed to an election; and after the election so made, to present the Elect to the Bishop, for his confirmation.

THE four next Officers were always appointed by the Bishop, and removable at his pleasure; viz.

THE SUBPRIOR; who was the Prior's Deputy or Substitute, and assisted him whilst present, and presided in his absence; he had convenient apartments to himself, and sufficient revenues appropriated to his Office, for finding him in necessaries and proper attendants.

SACRISTA, or the Sacrist; he had the care of the Books, Vestments, Plate, and other Ornaments belonging to the Church; of providing the Elements for Celebration of the holy Sacrament; and finding Wax-candles<sup>1</sup> and Tapers used in Divine Service; and likewise of burying the dead. This Officer was of special trust in this

<sup>1</sup> The expense of Wax-candles made a considerable Article in the Sacrist's Accounts. On the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary yearly, the Wax Candles used in the Church throughout the year, were consecrated with great ceremony, and a solemn procession with lighted candles made at the same time; on which occasion the Sacrist was wont to deliver out Candles to such of the inhabitants



this Monastery, having also the charge of the Fabrick of the Church and other buildings, and keeping them in repair: on which account the revenues belonging to his office were proportionably large: he received all the offerings and oblations made at the High Altar, and other Altars in the Church; legacies given to the fabrick, or for ornament to it; Pentecostals throughout the Diocese; <sup>1</sup> the Church of *St. Mary in Ely* was very early appropriated to his Office; *William Longchamp* the 4th Bishop of *Ely* gave 1 sheaf of corn from every acre of land in the Bishop's Demesnes throughout all his manors towards finding Tapers and Candles; which was afterwards settled at a fixed annual Rent, of 10*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, still paid to the Church, called Candle-corn-silver; *Geofry Burgh* Bishop here, appropriated the Church of *St. Andrew in Cambridge*, for augmentation of the revenues of this office; as did Bishop *Northwold* the Church of *Wentworth*; <sup>2</sup> all which revenues, besides the rents of divers lands and tenements in *Ely* and elsewhere, the Sacrist received; and annually accounted for, (as did also all the other officers,) at Michaelmas. Besides this, the Sacrist had a kind of Archidiaconal power in *St. John's Hospital*, and over the Chantry-Chaplains *on the Green, in Ely*, as the Bishop's Vicar or Deputy; and in his own right, exercised spiritual and ecclesiastical jurisdiction, (Herefies only excepted,) over the Chaplains of the two Parochial Churches in the City, and all the lay-servants belonging to the Monastery, and in these Granges and Manors near *Ely*, namely, *Turbutfey, Brame, Stuntney, Thorney, Northney, Quaveney*, and *Schepey*.

CELLERARIUS, or the Cellarer; whose office was to provide and lay in all the common provisions of the Monastery, Flesh, fish, fowl, eggs, spices, cheese, salt, and other necessaries for the Monks in the Common Hall or Refectory; for which purpose, he received a certain allowance out of the common treasury <sup>3</sup> of the Monastery, besides the revenues of certain estates which were afterwards appropriated to his office; of which the Manor of *Stuntney*, and *Keten's Manor* in *Ely* were part: and Bishop *Hotbam* gave his Manor of *Dageney* at *Northwold* in *Norfolk*, (which was afterwards exchanged for one at *Littlebury* in *Essex*;) also the Vineyard and a Garden in *Holbourn*, with two Tenements in *Grace-Church-street London*, and the rents of some lands and tenements in *Ely*, for augmentation of the revenues of his Office.

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habitants of the City who attended: at length all the Citizens used to come and claim each of them a Candle as due by custom: and it was found that 700 pounds weight of Candles were hardly sufficient to answer the demands of the claimants on that day. In the year 1277, Robert Kilwardby Archbishop of Canterbury visited this Church, and taking notice of this expensive and unreasonable custom, issued out his mandate, forbidding the Citizens making such demands, and the Sacrist's complying with them, under pain of excommunication. *Registrum Epi. Elien. M. pag. 203.* — However, it appears afterwards by the Sacrist's accounts, that the ordinary quantity of wax-candles used in the Church amounted yearly to 1000 pounds weight or upwards.

<sup>1</sup> These were pious oblations made to this Cathedral, as to the Mother Church; which all the parochial Clergy and their parishioners throughout the Diocese, were formerly obliged to visit yearly at Whitsuntide. Bp. of *Ely's* Register, Liber. M. pag. 195. <sup>2</sup> This appropriation was dissolved some time between the years 1418 and 1446; and *Wentworth* is now a Rectory again, in the Patronage of the Dean and Chapter. <sup>3</sup> In Bp. *Northwold's* time, (temp. Henr. 3.) the Cellarer received out of the common stock about 10 shillings per diem, for provisions expended in the Refectory.



CAMERARIUS, or the Chamberlain; who provided all necessary clothing for the Monks, and their beds and bedding in the Dormitory: to this office were appropriated the Rectories of *Hauxton* and *Wicham*, by Bishop *Northwold*.

OTHER Officers of the Monastery, who were chose by the Prior and Convent, were

ELEEMOSYNARIUS, or the Almoner; who had the charge of distributing the Alms of the Monastery. All the broken meat and bread left at the Prior's table, in the Refectory, the Infirmary, and at the Hostle for entertainment of Strangers; was delivered to his servants and given daily to the poor: he visited the sick and poor people at their houses, and relieved them according to their necessities; he also distributed the bread and alms, on the several obits and anniversaries kept in the Monastery.<sup>1</sup> The Almoner had besides for these purposes the rents of divers lands and tenements in *Ely* and at *Stretbam*, and received 20s. on the death of every Monk to be given away in Alms: and Bishop *Balsbam* A.D. 1275, augmented his revenues with the Rectory of *Foxton*, which was then appropriated to this office.

PRECENTOR, or the Chantor; he presided in the Choir-service, as Master of the Organist, Singers, and Choristers, and paid them their salaries: his place in the Choir was in a conspicuous seat on the South-side or right-hand, thence called the Chantor's Side: and in solemn processions this Officer was always distinguished among them by the richness of his Cope. In this Monastery he was also chief Librarian, and had within his office the *Scriptorium*, a room where writers were employed in transcribing Books both for the Library, and Missals and other Books used in Divine Service; this room was furnished with vellum, parchment, paper, inks, colours, gums, and other necessities for limners, used in illuminating their books; and leather, and other implements, for binding and keeping them in repair; all which things were provided by him; and for defraying these expenses, he received the profits of some lands and tenements in *Ely* appropriated to his office, besides a portion of tithes from a farm called *Cattmere* in *Littlebury*, given by *Nigellus* the 2d. Bishop, for the repair of the Organs; the same Bishop also gave the Rectories of *St. Andrew's* in *Wittlesey*, and *Impington*, and a portion of tithes in *Pampisworth*, for transcribing Books and keeping them in order.

HOSTILARIUS, whose business was to receive strangers and travellers coming to the Monastery, and entertain them with meat and drink, firing, and proper attendants and lodgings, according to the state and condition of the guests; for which purpose he had within his apartments a separate hall, parlour, bed-chambers, all of them properly furnished; a Kitchen also and other offices for their accommodation: some lands in *Stretbam* were originally settled by Bp. *Hervey*, and the Rectories of *Witchford* and *Meldreth* and *Sutton*, with other revenues given by succeeding Bishops and appropriated to support this kind of Hospitality. Persons of rank and eminence resorting to the Monastery were usually entertained by the Prior, in his lodgings.

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<sup>1</sup> The bread and alms given away on the obits and stated anniversaries, observed in this Church, amounted to about 30 pounds annually; and other revenues belonging to this office, to near as much; besides the profits of the Rectory of *Foxton*.



INFIRMARIUS, who had the care of the Infirmary, where the sick and infirm Monks resided, not being tied up to the strict rules observed in other parts of the Monastery; but were allowed to eat flesh at all convenient times; and were provided with proper diet, physick, and attendants, and all things necessary for their condition, and a private Chapel for those who were able to attend. The Rectory of *Wrating* was appropriated by Bp. *Nigellus* to this purpose, who also granted one tree for firing in every week in the year out of *Somerstam* wood, for the use of the Infirmary; besides which there were two Fisheries, and the rents of some lands and tenements in and about *Ely* given to support the charges of this office.

PITANTIARIUS, whose office it was to take care that the *Pittances* of the Monastery were duly served up: these were extraordinary dishes either of fish, flesh, fowl, dried and preserved fruits, according to the season, given to the Monks, chiefly on festivals, anniversaries, and obits observed in the Church: for most of the Bishops and Priors, and others, besides the alms left to be distributed to the poor on those occasions, left also some further sum for the better refection of the Monks, at the same time; and this Officer received that money, and took care that it was duly expended, and the dishes regularly served up in the Hall.

GRANATARIUS, was the Keeper of the Granary, whose charge was to buy in, and deliver out the Wheat, Malt, and other Corn for the use of the Prior and Convent.

THESAURARIUS, or the Treasurer, who received all the Rents and Revenues of the Monastery, not appropriated to particular purposes; and paid the common expenses, under the direction of the Prior.

CUSTOS ALTARIS BE. MARIÆ, Keeper of St. *Mary's* Altar; this seems to have been originally part of the Sacrist's office, for he received the offerings made at all the Altars in the Church, till this Altar was put under a distinct officer; who thenceforth received all the offerings there made, and provided Books, Vestments, Chalice, Coverings, and Ornaments, and Lights for that altar, used in the celebration of the Mass *De Sancta Maria* daily throughout the year. The place where it stood, was in the South-Isle of the Church, even with the High Altar: but after the new Chapel of St. *Mary* (now used as a Parochial Church for Trinity Parish,) was built, he was called *Custos* or *Keeper of St. Mary's Chapel*; and the rents of some lands and tenements in *Ely*, and the profits of a small Manor in *Cotenham* called *Pelham's Manor*, were appropriated to his office.

THERE might have been several other of inferior note, besides Lay-Officers and Servants of the Monastery; but these are the principal Officers who were Monks, and subsisted there till the final dissolution of it, in the reign of King *Henry the Eighth*.



## BISHOPS of ELY.

## HERVEY, the First BISHOP.

HERVEY Bishop of *Bangor* in *Wales*, being in favour with King *Henry I*, had the Administration of the Abby of *Ely* granted him, on the death of *Richard* the last Abbot, who died in the year 1107: He had not been long there, before he revived the design, which had been first formed by the late Abbot, of converting that ABBY into a BISHOPRICK; for which purpose, having solicited and obtained the King's approbation and consent, which was also followed by that of the Bishops and Nobility of the Kingdom, he undertook a journey to *Rome* in the year 1108, to solicit the Pope's consent; where meeting with like success, he returned to *England* with the Pope's Letters of recommendation, and his leave for erecting a new Episcopal See at *Ely*. This business however met with some delay, after his return, on account of some publick affairs that took up the King's attention about that time; but was happily accomplished and finally concluded at a Council held at *Nottingham* in the month of October 1109; when the King was pleased to grant his Royal assent, and his Charter for Converting the Abby of *Ely* into a Bishoprick, and erecting an Episcopal See therein, and for annexing to it the County of *Cambridge*, which had been part of the Diocese of *Lincoln*, and making it a separate Diocese for this new Bishoprick; as appears by the Charter itself above-cited;<sup>1</sup> and *Hervey* himself was at the same time nominated by the King, and fully translated to it, and soon after the Council was ended, repaired to *Ely*, where he was solemnly enthroned Bishop in his Cathedral Church, towards the end of the same year.

As soon as *Hervey* was in quiet possession of his See, he was very careful to support and maintain the rights and privileges belonging to it; and in the first place procured of the King a general Charter, confirming the liberties and possessions of his Church, as they stood at the time of King *Edward's* death, and were afterwards solemnly adjudged by the Court held at *Kenteford* in the reign of K. *William* the Conqueror.<sup>2</sup> He then made it his business to enquire more strictly into all affairs relating to the Church; and found that many disorders had occasionally been introduced; which he determined to use his utmost endeavours to remove. It appeared on inquiry that several estates and manors belonging to the Church, were in possession of Tenants, who pretended to hold them in their own right, and refused to perform any of those suits and services that were due; encroachments also had been made on the Liberties, by the power and influence of some great men; and the Custody of the Bridge leading into the *Isle*, was in the hands of those who held it against the will and consent of the Bishop. To remedy these disorders, and prosecute the rights of his Church; he took care to secure to himself the King's favour and protection; and by

<sup>1</sup> Appendix, Numb. VII.    <sup>2</sup> Appendix, Numb. IX;



by the powerful assistance of his friends, and his own assiduous and personal application, he recovered, soon after his coming to the See, the Manor of *Hadham* in *Hertfordshire*,<sup>1</sup> from *Ranulf* Bishop of *Durham*, who had disseized the Church of it in the Reign of K. *William* II, and had kept possession ever since: he afterwards, on divers occasions and at different times, obtained grants of further privileges; and among others, exemption<sup>2</sup> of the Monks and their servants from Toll, Passage, and Custom throughout *England*, in purchasing timber, lead, iron, stone, and other materials for building and repairing the Church; also a Fair to be held at *Ely* 7 Days, viz. 3 days before the 23<sup>d</sup>. of June, being the Anniversary of the Death of St. *Etheldreda*; on that day, and 3 days after.<sup>3</sup> He also recovered several Liberties and Immunities that had been intermitted, and procured the King's Writs and Charters for restoring and confirming them to the Church; some of which may be found in the Appendix.<sup>4</sup>

As some of the lands which were held of the Church by Knights-service were subject also to Castle-guard in the King's Castle of *Norwich*, and several sums of money were paid by the tenants for Livery, Ward-peny, and other works and operations exacted of them, for repairs of the Castle, and maintenance of the King's garrison there; by reason of which, the King's officers frequently gave the Bishop and his tenants much trouble and vexation; he was desirous at any rate of easing his Church from such kind of burdens: and though attended with considerable expense, he thought best at once to purchase of the King an exemption from all those duties and services: which the King accepted, and confirmed by his Charters,<sup>5</sup> and further granted that the whole of those duties and services which had been performed by his tenants in *Norwich*-Castle should be transferred to the *Isle of Ely*; so that for the future they should do the same in the *Isle*, at the appointment of the Bishop and his Successors, as they had formerly done in the Castle of *Norwich*.

ANOTHER burden of which the Bishop eased his Church in part, was that of Scutage; a customary duty paid to the King from all lands held by the tenure of Knights-service, in lieu of personal attendance in the King's Army; and generally set according to the number of fees so holden, or sometimes at one gross sum. The Church of *Ely* had usually been charged with 100*l*. on that account whenever the King demanded that Service of his Subjects: But the Bishop thinking the Church over-rated, petitioned the King for redress; who was pleased, at the Bishop's request, to grant a Charter for remitting to the Church 40*l*. part of the said 100*l*. usually paid

<sup>1</sup> Appendix, Numb. x.    <sup>2</sup> Appendix, Numb. xi, xii.    <sup>3</sup> Appendix, Numb. xiii. — There were formerly two Fairs annually held at Ely, and both on the different Festivals of St. *Etheldreda*; one for 7 days, beginning 3 days before the 23<sup>d</sup> of June; the other on Oct. 17, the Anniversary of her Translation, and lasted 9 days; but the former has been changed, (by what authority I know not,) to Ascension-Day: and the latter, (which is taken notice of by Matth. Paris, [Hist. Angl. p. 652. Edit. Wats.] so long ago as K. Henr. 3<sup>d</sup>'s time,) by modern custom begins on Oct 18, viz. St. Luke's Day. — There was formerly great resort to them; but these Fairs, like most others in the Kingdom, have been greatly on the decline of late years.    <sup>4</sup> Numb. xiv, xv, xvi, xvii.    <sup>5</sup> Appendix, Numb. xviii, xix.



paid for Scutage; and that for the future the Church should pay only 60*l.* whenever it should be demanded throughout *England*, and be quit of the said 40*l.* for ever.<sup>1</sup>

THESE advantages however, were not obtained to the Church, without the Bishop's paying largely to the King for them; as is evident from one of the original Rolls of the Exchequer in the reign of Henr. I. still extant, and cited by Mr. Madox;<sup>2</sup> in which are found several sums of money that our Bishop was indebted, and in part paid, to the King, for Grants of privileges and confirmation of Liberties, and on other accounts; and particularly 1000*l.* for the King's transferring the service of those who held of the Church by Knights-service, from *Norwich-Castle* to the *Isle of Ely*; and 240*l.* for taking off the surcharge of 40*l.* Scutage from the Church, &c. And probably, it was by the same means that he obtained *Chateris* Abby:<sup>3</sup> this was a *Benedictine* Nunnery, in the Advowson of the Crown, founded about the year 980, by the Lady *Alfwen*, Wife to *Ethelstan* Earl of the *East-Angles*, and Nurse to King *Edgar*, with the assistance and advice of her Brother *Ednoth* Bp. of *Dorchester*; but at this time reduced to very low circumstances; and the Bishop is said to have been induced, out of compassion to the Abbess and Nuns, to undertake their cause, and treat with the King for retrieving their affairs; who was pleased by his Charter to convey the Patronage thereof to him and to his Successors; under whose protection and support, it soon recovered; and continued in a flourishing state till the general dissolution of Monasteries in *England*.

IN regard to the temporal jurisdiction within the two Hundreds of the *Isle*, which was vested in the Church; *Hervey* as Bishop, was considered also as Abbot, and intitled to all the privileges, rights, and prerogatives that the Abbots had formerly enjoyed: for which reason, because the Abbots had always been in possession of that jurisdiction, or the executive part of it, in appointing Officers and Ministers for the administration of justice throughout the whole *Isle of Ely*; he therefore claimed the sole exercise of that jurisdiction to belong to him and his Successors: which claim seems to have been allowed and confirmed by the King, as appears by his Writ directed to all the Barons or Frank-tenants of the two Hundreds of the *Isle*, that they attend the Bishop's Hundred-Courts, at the summons of the Bishop's officers, as they had usually done aforetime, that the pleas of the Church might not be delayed, nor right and justice obstructed for want of proper judges:<sup>4</sup> and they are ordered

<sup>1</sup> Appendix, Numb. XXI. <sup>2</sup> Mr. Madox, at the end of his History of the Exchequer, has added a dissertation on the most ancient Great Roll of the Exchequer now remaining; which had erroneously been adjudged to the 5<sup>th</sup> year of King Stephen; but proves to belong to K. Henry the 1<sup>st</sup>'s reign; as he makes to appear by the following extracts; '— Herveius Episcopus de Ely reddit compotum de 7 marcis auri et dimidia, pro ministerio Willelmi nepotis sui. In thesauro 18*l.* pro 3 marcis auri; et debet 4 marcas auri et dimidiam. — Et quater xx et 12 *l.* et 10*s.* — Et idem Epūs debet 100 marcas argenti pro quadam veteri conventionē que facta fuit inter eum et Regem in Normannia. — Et idem Epūs debet c*l.* pro placito quod fuit inter eum et Abbatem S. Edmundi et Abbatem de Ramesia. — Et idem Epūs debet 240*l.* ut Rex clamet eum quietum de superplus Militum Episcopatus, et ut Abbatia de Cateriz sit queta de Warpenna. — Et idem Epūs reddit compotum de 1000*l.* ut Milites Episcopatus de Ely faciant Wardam suam in Insula de Ely, sicut faciebant in Castello de Norwic; In thesauro 364*l.* Et debet 636*l.*' Madox, ut supra, pag. 74. <sup>3</sup> Appendix, Numb. XXII. <sup>4</sup> '— ne placitum vel reſtitutio Ecclesie remaneant pro penuria iudicantium.' Appendix, Numb. XXIII. — See also Numb. XXIV.



ed by the King to perform the same service to the Bishop, as they had usually done to his Predecessors the Abbots of *Ely*.

IN the times preceeding the Conquest, and for some time after, the whole revenues of our Abbies, and Cathedral Churches were in common to each Society: but the *Normans* introduced the custom of dividing the possessions of the Church between the Abbot or Bishop, and the other members thereof. Archbishop *Lanfranc* is said to have set the example in his own Church of *Canterbury*; <sup>1</sup> and was soon followed by most other Bishops in the Kingdom. With respect to those Cathedrals where Canons inhabited, they had usually distinct portions or prebends assigned them, consisting either in particular lands, or sums of money allotted them, or for the most part, of the Parochial Churches formerly belonging to the Cathedral, which were annexed to their Stalls; each Prebendary receiving the profits of his Church so annexed, and supplying their several cures by Vicars or Substitutes: but in the Conventual Cathedrals, the estates and possessions were divided between the Bishop and the Prior and Convent, who continued to enjoy their share in common as before. *Hervey* being settled in his Bishoprick, and judging it better and more convenient both for himself and the Monks, to have their estates separate and independent of each other, thought proper to apply to the King, whose approbation and consent were necessary to authorize and confirm a division: and the King accordingly issued out his Mandate, <sup>2</sup> by which he commands that the Monks should have a just portion and equal share of all things belonging to the Abby, according to established custom and agreeably to ecclesiastical justice; namely, of all the lands, possessions, dignities, and goods, that had at any time been given and granted by the faithful for their use and support, and which the Abby was in possession of when it was converted into a Bishoprick: and this division is ordered to be made on Oath, by good and lawful men of the Honour of *St. Etheldreda*; and the portion thus assigned to the Monks to be committed to writing, and thenceforth applied for their maintenance and support, and so freely and quietly to remain. In pursuance of this Mandate, the Bishop afterwards granted the following Charter, whereby the possessions of the Church were divided between the Bishop and the Monks.

‘ HERVEY <sup>3</sup> by the grace of God the first Bishop of *Ely*, to all the Sons of the Church as well present as future, greeting. Whereas by the providence of God the Abby of *Ely* was committed to my care, and the name of Abby being now suppressed, it has by the authority of our Lord Pope *Paschal*, with the consent of *Henry* our King, by and with the advice of his Nobles, been converted to the dignity of a Bishoprick; I have therefore decreed to sever the necessities of the Monks from those of the Bishop. And forasmuch as the necessities of the Monks have been collected in common from all parts of the lands and possessions of the Church; fearing lest thereby, in time to come, matter and occasion of dispute and contention may arise; I have therefore decreed that the lands and possessions of

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<sup>1</sup> X Scriptores, col. 1311.    <sup>2</sup> Appendix, Numb. xxv.    <sup>3</sup> See the Charter in the Appendix, Numb. xxvi.



' the Monks, and those of the Bishop be separate; and they having given their assent,  
 ' I do allow them the separate possession of the following things, to find them in ne-  
 ' cessaries, and grant them so to continue for ever; unless my successors shall think  
 ' fit to supply them more liberally. The names then of the Lands thus allotted  
 ' them, are these; Within the *Isle*, *Sutton*, *Wicham*, *Wichford*, *Wintworth*, *Tirbritefei*,  
 ' *Stuntney* with the 23000 Eels appendant to that Manor; all the Offerings and Ob-  
 ' lations at the Mother Church, to furnish necessities for the said Church; also the  
 ' Church of *St. Mary in Ely*, with the lands, tithes, and all things to the same ap-  
 ' pertaining; and particularly the whole tithe of my manor of *Barton*; one Dairy  
 ' in *Beele*; and *Stretham*, which shall be divided into three parts, two of them to be  
 ' applied to the Hostle for entertainment of Strangers, and the third part towards  
 ' finding the Monks with necessities; also Four weighs of Cheefe [*' quatuor penfas*  
 ' *casei*<sup>1</sup>] in *Dereford*, and six weighs of Salt in *Terrington*; — moreover, the same  
 ' allowance of wood as they had in the time of my Predecessors from *Somersham* and  
 ' *Bluntesham*; one manse on *Bluntesham* bank, with 5 acres of land for stowage  
 ' thereof, and 8 acres of meadow for pasturing the oxen that draw the wood; their  
 ' vineyard also in *Ely*, as they were in possession of before I came to the Bishoprick;  
 ' — six fishermen with their manses, to fish in the waters where they used to do. —  
 ' Without the *Isle*, in the County of *Cambridge*, *Haukeston*, *Newton*, [*Sceldford*,<sup>2</sup>]  
 ' *Meldeburn*, *Melreth*, *Swafham*, and 12 skeps of Wheat and Malt<sup>3</sup> due to the Church  
 ' from the Heirs of *Hardwin de Sculariis*. — In *Suffolk*, *Bergbam*, *Winston*, *Stoke*, *Mel-*  
 ' *ton*, *Baldressey*, *Sudburn*, *Brightwell* with *Rixmere*; — also the Soke of the five Hun-  
 ' dreds and half; — *Lakingbeth*, *Undeley*, *Shepey*, *Fodesthorp*, to be at the disposal of  
 ' the Monks, and 30000 herrings due from *Dunwich*. — I also grant them their ser-  
 ' vants in their several offices, with their mansions. — Moreover, I allow them to have  
 ' and freely to enjoy all manner of gifts, either made to them before I was Bishop,  
 ' or in my time, or that shall hereafter be given them, whether in Lands, or in  
 ' Churches, or Tithes, or Fisheries, or in Money, or in any kind of revenue, that any  
 ' of the faithful have already conferred or shall hereafter confer. — All the before-  
 ' mentioned things, and moreover their Court do I grant them, with all the liberties  
 ' and customs that are observed in those Manors that belong to my jurisdiction,  
 ' without

<sup>1</sup> What a weigh of Cheefe was in the reign of Henr. I, is uncertain; but by Stat. 9. Henr. 6. cap. 8. a weigh of Cheefe was to contain 224 pounds: in modern times, 256 pounds is a weigh.

<sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. vet. MS.    <sup>3</sup> '12 Skeppe frumenti et brafei;' — This was a Corn-rent due to the Church, from the heirs of Hardwin de Sculariis, out of the Manor of Schelford: — the question is, how much a Skep contained, and I apprehend it was 9 quarters London measure: — For in the reign of Henr. 3, this rent was exchanged by William one of the descendants of Hardwin de Sculariis, for 89 acres of arable land and one acre of meadow of his Demesnes in Schelford; and in the conveyance those lands are said, 'Habendas et tenendas imperpetuum in liberum et certum ei-  
 ' cambium, pro firma quam Ego et Heredes mei debuimus per annum prefate [*Eliensi*] Ecclesie et  
 ' predicto Conventui, de Schelford; scilicet. 36 Quarteria frumenti, per mensuram *London*. — et 9  
 ' Quarteria de Brafeo Ordei, — et 27 Quarteria de Brafeo Avene, — et 36 Quarteria de Avena,  
 ' totum per predictam mensuram.' — Here the whole rent is set at 108 quarters of corn, or 12 times 9 quarters.



‘ without any reserve or exception whatsoever: so fully that none of my Successors  
 ‘ may at all intermeddle in their affairs; but rather faithfully and constantly support  
 ‘ and maintain them in the full enjoyment of all their possessions. — But if any one  
 ‘ seduced by his wicked mind, shall attempt to infringe, violate, or make null and  
 ‘ void this our Constitution and Grant; — may he be condemned by God and all his  
 ‘ Saints, and by us excommunicated, as much as may be, and excluded from all so-  
 ‘ ciety with the faithful, unless he repents. — So be it, So be it; Amen.’

THE Monks were greatly dissatisfied with this Charter; and complained that the Bishop had thereby given them only the worst of the lands, and reserved the best and most valuable part to himself and his successors; and so far from allowing a sufficiency for the usual number of 70 Monks, and their servants, and to keep up hospitality; that he had scarce left a maintenance for 40.<sup>1</sup> They had, it seems, been averse to the making any division of the Church-lands, and for having them continue in the same state as before the Bishoprick was erected: but the Bishop having procured the King’s Mandate for dividing them, they were accordingly divided; and the Monks forced to take what was given them, and seemingly to acquiesce, in hopes, however, of a more ample allowance afterwards, and until a more equitable and canonical portion should be allotted them.<sup>2</sup> How far their complaint was just, cannot now be said with certainty; but that it was not quite groundless, appears from what *William of Malmesbury*, who lived at that time, speaks concerning the great revenues formerly belonging to the Church of *Ely*; ‘ You may judge, says he, of the  
 ‘ value of it’s ancient possessions by this; that though many of them have been taken  
 ‘ away, and many are in the hands of intruders; — yet he who now presides there  
 ‘ receives annually 1040*l.* into his own purse, besides what he expends in his own  
 ‘ family, and in keeping up hospitality; but has scarcely allowed 300*l.* to the Monks.’<sup>3</sup> The King’s Mandate for dividing the estates between the Bishop and the Monks, seems to direct an equal division;<sup>4</sup> and that to be made on Oath: by what means, or under what pretences, it proved so unequal, as the Monks represent it, is not clear: — possibly the Bishop might reserve as much of the Monks share, as was sufficient to repay himself part of the great expenses he had been at, in purchasing of the King so many benefits and advantages to the Church.<sup>5</sup>

CERTAIN it is that *Hervey* made very advantageous terms for himself and his successors: However, with respect to the temporal jurisdiction within the Isle of *Ely*,  
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<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 23. <sup>2</sup> ‘ — Donec juxta Canonum scita ad usus illorum equa portio traderetur.’ Ibid. <sup>3</sup> Malmesb. de Gestis Pontif. Angl. p. 293. — This is mentioned by Bishop Godwin, de Præsul. Angl. pag. 249. without taking notice whence he had it, and erroneously applied to Richard the last Abbot of *Ely*; but as it is certain that the revenues of the Church were then in common, and were first divided by Bp. Hervey, there is no room to doubt, but Malmesbury hints at that Bishop. <sup>4</sup> ‘ — Precipio quod Monachi de Hely habeant de sua Abbatia justam portionem et equam divisionem secundum morem et jus ecclesiasticum in omnibus rebus &c. — equanimitè eorum portio et res totius Abbatie dividantur ab invicem, et per sacramentum bonorum et fidelium &c.’ vid. Append. Numb. xxv. <sup>5</sup> So Walkelin Bp. of Winchester, who divided the revenues of that Church between himself and the Convent; yet retained in his hands the value of 300*l.* per an. of the Monks part, till the Church which he had begun to build, was finished. Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 278.



the sole administration thereof seemed naturally to fall to his share, as successor to the Abbots; but as the Monks had an interest in the profits arising from it, before the division of the revenues; so he afterwards allowed them all the profits from fines, forfeitures of their tenants, and all other casual advantages arising within their manors and estates, in as ample manner as the Bishop enjoyed them in his manors and estates, and in the rest of the *Iſle*. He discharged himself and his successors from any obligation to support, build, or repair the Fabrick of the Church, or any part thereof; <sup>1</sup> leaving it entirely to the care of the Monks, to be supported and maintained; but gave up towards it, all the offerings and oblations made at the several Altars in it.

HE had a natural turn for business: the difficult and perplexed affairs of his Church, occasioned by the many encroachments made on it's Liberties by men in power, and exactions of the King's Officers, in violation of the privileges of the place; together with the division of all the lands, estates, and revenues of the Church, which was effected in his time, and by his means, afford sufficient proof of his abilities: he was active and persevering in his undertakings; and seems to have transacted all business of consequence by immediate and personal application to the King, who being frequently abroad, he divers times attended him in foreign parts, and by his interest and address, reestablished the Liberties and Privileges of his Church, and freed it from many encumbrances in which he found it. He left his See rich, and possessed of much greater privileges, rights, and immunities than most others in the Kingdom.

IN his last sickness, he expressed great desire of seeing *Gilbert* Bishop of *London*, (surnamed *Universalis*, from his rare accomplishments and skill in all parts of learning,) to whom he was nearly related in blood; who accordingly came to *Ely* a little time before his death, to assist him in settling both his spiritual and temporal affairs. *Hervey* during his illness seemed desirous of taking upon him the monastick habit and profession, <sup>2</sup> but whilst he was preparing to enter on that state, and before he could accomplish it, he was prevented by death; which happened on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year 1131. He was buried the next day in his Cathedral Church; having held his Bishoprick 22 years, wanting 6 weeks and 5 days. <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Several of his successors however, though under no obligation to it, have at sundry times, of their mere liberality and zeal for the honour of God, thought fit to contribute largely to the repairs, ornament, and in several instances, to the enlarging or rebuilding parts of the Church. Bp. Geofrey Ridel built the Western Tower, Eustachius the Galilee, Hugh Norwold added 6 arches to the east-end, and John Hotham rebuilt the 3 arches adjoining, towards the Dome. <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 37. <sup>3</sup> MS. Harleian. in Musæo Brit. N<sup>o</sup> 258. Fol. 83.



## II. NIGELLUS. 1133.

AFTER the Death of *Hervey*, the King took into his hands the Temporalities of the See, and received the profits near two years: but in the year 1133, when the King was preparing to make a voyage into *Normandy*, (which proved his last;) he was prevailed on to permit several vacancies in the Church to be filled, before he went; one of which was the See of *Ely*: but, on condition that the Monks elected and received for their Bishop his Treasurer NIGELLUS; <sup>1</sup> he was at that time Prebendary of *St. Paul's London*, and Nephew of *Roger* Bishop of *Salisbury*: and was accordingly Confirmed at *Burnham*, June 27, and Consecrated at *Lambeth* on the 1st of *October* following by *William Corboil* Archbishop of *Canterbury*. Soon after his Consecration he came down to *Ely*, where he was received with extraordinary marks of respect and joyfulness; but the Office he held under the King, who was then gone into *Normandy*, made it necessary for him to reside at *London*: on which account he soon left the place, having first committed the care of his Diocese to one *Ranulph* a Secular Clergyman.

ON the death of King *Henry I*, who died in *Normandy* Dec. 1. 1135. *Stephen* Earl of *Bolougne* his Nephew took possession of the Crown, which had been settled on his Daughter the Empress *Matilda*. The part the Bishop of *Ely* took at that juncture, was to sit still, and wait for a more favourable opportunity of declaring his real sentiments: he even continued in the office of Treasurer <sup>2</sup> during the first part of *Stephen's* reign: in the mean time he took care to put the *Isle of Ely* into a state of defence, by building a Castle <sup>3</sup> at *Ely*, and repairing another at *Aldrey*, into which he put a garrison; but did not think fit openly to espouse the cause of the Empress, till the year 1139; and the occasion of it is too remarkable to be omitted. A general rumour prevailing at that time throughout the Kingdom, that *Matilda* was coming into *England* to assert her claim to the Crown; <sup>4</sup> it was suggested to *Stephen*, that the Bishop of *Salisbury*, and his two Nephews the Bishops of *Lincoln* and *Ely*, were favourers of the design, and their Castles intended for the reception of his enemies; and that the only way to avoid the danger, was to get possession of those Castles. Not long after, about the end of *June* that year, the King called a great Council to be held at *Oxford*, to which the Bishop of *Salisbury* was particularly summoned; who would willingly have excused himself on account of his age and infirmities: but as the King refused to admit of any excuse, he took with him, besides his own attendants, his two Nephews the Bishops of *Lincoln* and *Ely*, who also had with them a numerous train of Servants well armed, and came  
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<sup>1</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 40. <sup>2</sup> Madox, Hist. Exchequer, pag. 54. <sup>3</sup> There are now no remains of this Castle, which was probably demolished in the reign of King Henr. II. when almost all others which were erected in K. Stephen's reign were ordered to be destroyed. X. Script. col. 1043. — However, one of the Wards of the City where it stood retains the Name, being called to this day Castle-Ward. <sup>4</sup> Malmesb. de Regibus Angl. pag. 181. — Floren. Wigorn. Continuatio, ad an. 1138, 1139. — X. Scriptores, col. 1345.



to the Council. Here it happened, that a quarrel arising between the retainers of the three Bishops, and those of *Alan* Earl of *Richmond*; many were wounded on both sides, and a Knight belonging to the Earl was slain. The King laid hold on the occasion to arrest all the three Bishops for breach of the peace; and for a pledge of their fidelity, insisted on their delivering up to him their Castles; and they were ordered to be kept in custody till they complied. But whilst the matter was in suspense, the Bishop of *Ely* found means to escape, and went to his Uncle the Bishop of *Salisbury*'s Castle at the *Devizes*: the two other Bishops by threats and rough usage were brought to consent. As soon as the King was informed of what course the Bishop of *Ely* had taken, he took with him the Bishop of *Salisbury* and his Son *Roger*, who was the King's Chancellor, and went, and laid siege to the Castle: and as the place was strong and would take up much time to reduce it by force, he made use of this expedient to make himself master of it: A gallows was erected near the walls, and the Bishop of *Salisbury* and the Chancellor were led up to it; and word was sent to those within the Castle, that the Chancellor should be hanged, and the Bishop of *Salisbury* should neither eat or drink, unless it was immediately delivered up to the King.<sup>1</sup> Upon which the Bishop of *Ely* thought proper to surrender it, only on condition of having his liberty; and retiring to the *Isle of Ely*, he was there joined by some of the disaffected Barons, and some measures were taken for the defence of the place. But the King soon having information of their design, hastened thither with his forces; and with the greatest expedition collecting a number of boats together, with hurdles and planks upon them, suddenly passed the river with his Horse near *Aldrey*, and thereby made himself master of the place, before his enemies had time to recollect themselves, or make any resistance.<sup>2</sup> The Bishop had the good fortune to escape out of the *Isle* the night before, and made the best of his way to *Glecester*,<sup>3</sup> where the Empress, who arrived in *England* a little before, then resided. The Monks of the Church fearing lest this unlucky affair might turn to their ruin, resolved to meet the King; and throwing themselves at his feet, professed that they were in no wise concerned in this act of rebellion against him; and gave him such convincing proofs of it, that the King declared himself well satisfied of their innocence; and further, by a Charter dated at *Cambridge* a day or two after, he confirmed their liberties and possessions; but he seized the effects of the Bishop, and took into his hands all his revenues, both within and without the *Isle*.<sup>4</sup>

Not long after, the King being taken prisoner at *Lincoln*, the Bishop, with the assistance of some forces he received from the Empress, recovered the *Isle of Ely*, and was by her means fully restored to his Bishoprick. On his return to *Ely*, he was received by the Monks with the greater pleasure and respect; as there had for some time before been a disagreement between them and the Bishop, occasioned by the slanderous and false reports made of them by *Ranulph*, to whom the Bishop had committed the care of his Diocese: but *Ranulph* himself having been detected, and found guilty of endeavouring to raise disturbances in the State to serve his own  
private

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 58. <sup>3</sup> X. Scriptores, col. 1350. — Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 60. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. cap. 58.



private interest, was now fled from his charge through fear of being punished for his misconduct: whereby peace and mutual confidence between the Bishop and them was restored. <sup>1</sup>

WHEN the war broke out again, on the King's recovering his liberty, the Bishop did not openly engage himself in it, but seemed rather to wait the event. In the mean time the haughty behaviour of the Empress, gave the King such advantage, that her cause became desperate; and the Bishop foreseeing that his persisting in his opposition, must inevitably bring him under great difficulties, without any real advantage to her affairs, endeavoured to make his peace with the King on the best terms he could; which was, not without great difficulty, brought about by the mediation of his friends. <sup>2</sup>

IN the beginning of the year 1143, a Council being held at *London*, at which the King was present, and *Henry* his brother Bishop of *Winchester* presided as the Pope's Legate; one *Vitalis* a Clergyman preferred a Charge against the Bishop of *Ely*, for illegally dispossessing him of his Church; and the Legate seeming to countenance the charge, others were encouraged to accuse him for dissipating the goods of the Church, and spending them on his Soldiers, and as being a principal mover of sedition in the Kingdom: for which they appealed him to answer the same before the Pope. As soon as the Council broke up, the Bishop thought proper to consult some of his friends, who were with the Empress in the Western parts of the Kingdom: and in his journey thither was near being surprized and taken prisoner by a party of the King's forces near *Warbam-Castle* <sup>3</sup> in *Dorsetshire*; his horses, carriages and baggage fell into their hands, among which was the whole costly furniture of his Chapel: the Bishop however escaped to the Empress's Court; and having finished his business there, set out for *Ely*, where he arrived safe, though not without great danger of being intercepted by several parties of Soldiers, who were roving about and plundering the Country. Towards the end of the same year, <sup>4</sup> he received a Summons from the Legate, in consequence of the above-mentioned appeal, to attend the Court of *Rome*: but the loss he had suffered at *Warbam*, rendered him unable to undertake the journey without further supplies. On consulting with *Gocelin of Ely* and *William de Laventon* his Archdeacon, and others, they advised him to accommodate himself out of the Church treasury; and to obviate any discontent and murmurings of the Monks, to surrender to them the Manor of *Hadstock*, as a pledge for repayment of the money, within three months after his return. — Thus furnished and provided he set forward for *Rome*; where on his arrival, he fully refuted the charge of his adversaries, and received absolution from the Pope: the cause also of *Vitalis* was reheard, and the sentence passed on him by the Bishop for Simony, was confirmed.

DURING the time that the Bishop was at *Rome*, a party of the King's forces having formed a design of surprizing the *Isle of Ely*; <sup>5</sup> the guards that were placed to defend

<sup>1</sup> Dialog. de Scaccario, Edit. p. Madox. p. 24. <sup>2</sup> Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 72. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. cap. 73.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid. <sup>5</sup> Ibid. cap. 77.



defend it, invited *Geoffrey de Magnaville* to their assistance, who had some time before left the King in disgust for dispossessing him of his Castles of *Walden* and *Plesfiz*, and seized the Abby of *Ramsay* in *Huntingdonshire*, which he fortified against the King; and being thus put into possession of the *Isle of Ely* also, it awakened the attention of the King, who suspected that it was done with the consent or at least the connivance of the Bishop, though absent at that time at *Rome*; and therefore again ordered all his effects and possessions without the *Isle* to be seized, and disposed of them among his Soldiers.

ABOUT the latter end of the year 1144. the Bishop returned to *England* with the Pope's confirmation of the Liberties and Possessions of his Church, and Letters of recommendation from the Pope to the King and Archbishop; but found all his affairs in great disorder and perplexity; and the King so much exasperated against him, that it was with difficulty he obtained the favour of appearing in his presence and delivering his Letters from the Pope: however at the intercession of some Nobles about the King, he was at length permitted to make his submission; nevertheless on condition of paying a fine of 300 Marks,<sup>1</sup> and surrendering up his Son as an hostage and pledge of his fidelity: after which he received the King's protection for his person and effects, and returned to *Ely*. He was at that time so reduced in his circumstances, as not to be able to raise a sum sufficient to pay the fine that had been set: and the treasures of the Church were so exhausted, that the Monks were not in a capacity of assisting him, without having recourse again to the ornaments of the Church; a great part of which they had already made use of, to supply their own urgent necessities, in the course of the war, in which they had been frequently pillaged: they were induced, however, to lend the Bishop the sum of 200 Marks, which they procured by stripping off more of the silver from the Shrine of *St. Etheldreda*, and parting with some other ornaments of the Church; for repayment whereof he confirmed to them the Manor of *Hadstock* by his Charter, and settled it particularly for the repairing and ornamenting the aforesaid Shrine and Altar of *St. Etheldreda*.<sup>2</sup>

IN the latter part of King *Stephen's* reign, he seems to have lived retired; but had at length the satisfaction of seeing peace restored, and the succession of the Crown settled on *Henry Duke of Normandy* Son of *Matilda* the Empress, by a Convention of the States at *Westminster* in the year 1154, to which our Bishop occurs as a witness among many others.<sup>3</sup>

ON *Henry's* accession to the Crown in the year 1154, he was again appointed one of the Barons of the Exchequer, and probably Treasurer: and as he was judged to have most exact knowledge and skill in the forms and proceedings of that Court; he was pitched upon and particularly intrusted by the King, in reforming the many abuses that had been introduced into it during the late times of confusion; and had the honour of restoring that Court to it's former dignity and splendor.<sup>4</sup> He afterward purchased of the King for 400*l*, the Office of Treasurer, for his Son *Richard* at that time

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. cap. 31.    <sup>2</sup> Ibid. cap. 85.    <sup>3</sup> Rymer's *Fœdera*, vol. i. p. 13.    <sup>4</sup> *Dialogus de Scaccario*, (published at the end of Mr. Madox's *Hist. of the Exchequer*,) pag. 24.



time Archdeacon of *Ely*; and he himself still continued to act as one of the Barons of the Exchequer for some time, whilst his Son sat in the same Court as Treasurer.<sup>1</sup>

SOME time in this reign, he founded a Hospital at *Cambridge*<sup>2</sup> for a Master and several Brethren, to the honour of St. *John* the Evangelist; which continued under the patronage of his Successors the Bishops of *Ely*, till the year 1510, when the lands and site of it were surrendered up to the Executors of Lady *Margaret* Countess of *Richmond*, who thereupon founded the present noble and flourishing College of St. *John* the Evangelist.<sup>3</sup>

WHEN he wholly retired from business does not appear; but in the year 1164. when the great quarrel happened between the King and A. Bp. *Becket*, about the Constitutions of *Clarendon*, our Bishop was hindered from attending the Court, having been lately attacked with the palsy;<sup>4</sup> though it seems he afterwards so far recovered, as to be able to attend business,<sup>5</sup> and sat in the Court of the Exchequer the following year.<sup>6</sup> He continued Bishop of *Ely* near 36 years; and dying on Friday May 30, 1169, was buried in his Cathedral Church on the Sunday following, by *William* Bishop of *Norwich*, near the Altar of the Holy Cross.

### III. GEOFFRY RIDEL. 1174.

AFTER a vacancy of four years, GEOFFRY RIDEL, Chaplain to the King, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, and Archdeacon of *Canterbury*, was duly elected<sup>7</sup> by the Prior and Convent of *Ely* at *Westminster* on May 1. 1173, before *Richard de Lucy* Chief Justice of *England*, who gave his assent, in the absence of the King, who was then in *Normandy*.<sup>8</sup> He had been preferred to his Archdeaconry by A. Bp. *Becket* in 1163, on the King's earnest recommendation; and during the vacancy, was Custos of this See. Immediately after his election he went down to *Ely*, and was with much solemnity enthroned in his Cathedral Church on the 17<sup>th</sup> of *May* being *Ascension-day*;<sup>9</sup> and that before he was either Confirmed or Consecrated. Several other elections to different vacant Sees were made at the same time; and not long after *Richard* Prior of *Dover* was elected to *Canterbury*; but as there was a disagreement at that time between King *Henry* the Father and the young King *Henry* his Son; the latter opposed them all, as being made without his consent: whereupon an appeal was made to the Court of *Rome*; and the Elect of *Canterbury* going thither to obtain the Pope's Confirmation for himself and the rest of his Brethren, the young King sent over *Berter of Orleans*, as his Ambassador to oppose them.<sup>10</sup> — The Pope expected

<sup>1</sup> See Madox's Hist. of the Exchequer, pag. 743. <sup>2</sup> Parkeri Hist. Cantabr. pag. 24. — Godwin de Præsul. Angl. pag. 250. <sup>3</sup> The Bishop of Ely's Register B. pag. 244. <sup>4</sup> Gervasi Chron. col. 1350. <sup>5</sup> Madox Hist. Excheq. ut supra; — and his Formulæ Anglic. in the Dissertation prefixed, pag. 19. <sup>6</sup> Our Author (Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 131.) remarks that in the latter part of his life, he was obliged to be carried about in a carriage by his Servants. <sup>7</sup> <sup>8</sup> Ad instantiam Cardinalium Alberti et Theodini, Henricus rex Pater regis in Anglicana Ecclesia fieri liberæ electiones et permisit et scripsit. Radulf. de Diceto Ymag. Hist. inter X Script. col. 568. <sup>9</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 301. — Matth. Paris Hist. p. 106. <sup>10</sup> Rad. de Diceto, ut supra. <sup>11</sup> Rog. Hoveden Annal. pag. 538.



expected on this occasion that all the Elects should have appeared before him: and when he enquired particularly why the Elect of *Ely* was not there? *Berter* answered, My Lord, he has the Gospel-excuse: — What is that? said the Pope: — He has married a Wife, replied *Berter*, and therefore he cannot come. — Whether this was meant as a reflection on the Elect of *Ely*, as having been formerly married; or only spoke in regard to his See, is not easy to determine. Certain it is, that about that time many of the Clergy in the highest stations in the Church had been married men; only they were obliged, before their admission into holy Orders, to make a vow of celibacy: for instance, *Roger* Bishop of *Salisbury* had a Son who was Lord Chancellor in *K. Stephen's* reign; and *Nigellus* the late Bishop of *Ely's* Son *Richard* the King's Treasurer was Archdeacon of *Ely*, and in the next reign was promoted to the See of *London*; *Joceline* Bishop of *Salisbury's* Son *Reginald* was at this time Elect of *Bath*: And that the Elect of *Ely* had formerly been married seems probable, from the purgation of himself, that he made on his Confirmation, from those exceptions which were made to his character, before the Pope, by the young King's Ambassadors; namely, That he had neither by word or deed, or by writing in any wise procured or promoted the death of *Thomas [Becket]* the late Archbishop; neither had he, since his admission into holy Orders, been married or cohabited with any woman: <sup>1</sup> which seems to imply that he had formerly been married. However, after the return of the Archbishop from *Rome* he was Consecrated at *Canterbury*, with several others, Oct. 6. 1174. Before his promotion to the See of *Ely*, he had been employed in several embassies abroad, and particularly at the Court of *Rome*; and in the controversy between the King and *Becket* A.Bp. of *Canterbury* about the Constitutions of *Clarendon*, he took part with the King, and strongly opposed the proceedings of the Archbishop; for which he was excommunicated by him.

AFTER he was made Bishop, he continued in high favour with the King; who in his progress in the year 1177, came to *Ely*, and with many Bishops, Earls, and Barons, held there a great Council on the state of National affairs: <sup>2</sup> After his return to *London* he conferred the Abby of *Thorney* on *Solomon* Prior of the Church of *Ely*. In the year 1179, he was appointed Chief of the King's Itinerant justices, <sup>3</sup> with four others, in *Cambridgeshire*, and seven other adjoining Counties. With regard to his Church, he recovered in the King's Court at *Windsor*, <sup>4</sup> from *Roger Bigod*, Earl of *Norfolk*, the service of six Knights-fees in *Suffolk*, and some other estates that had been alienated from the Church during the Civil Wars in King *Stephen's* reign: and procured of Pope *Alexander III.* a Bull of Confirmation of all the Lands, Possessions, and Liberties of the Church, dated the 20th of April, 1179. <sup>5</sup> He also repaired very elegantly with silver the two sides and part of the covering of *St. Etheldreda's Shrine*; gave several rich vestments; ornamented the Choir with

paintings;

<sup>1</sup> Radulf. de Diceto Ymag. Hist. col. 581.    <sup>2</sup> Chron. Joh. Bromton, col. 1126, 1128.    <sup>3</sup> Rog. Hoveden Annal. Hen. 2. p. 591. — 'Dominus Rex Wintoniensem, Eliensem, Norwiciensem Episcopos Archijudicarios Regni, sed certis in locis constituit, &c. Radulf. de Diceto, ut supra. col. 606.    <sup>4</sup> Registrum Ep. Elien. M. p. 89.    <sup>5</sup> Ibid. p. 8.



paintings; and carried on the new work and Tower at the West-end of the Church, almost up to the top.<sup>1</sup>

HE was nominated one of the Executors of King *Henry's* Will, which bears Date at *Waltham* A.D. 1182.<sup>2</sup> The King dying abroad in *July* 1189, our Bishop, among many others of the Bishops and Nobility, went down to *Winchester*<sup>3</sup> in great state, to wait the arrival of the new King. Whilst he was there, he was taken ill, and died a few days after, viz. on the 21st. of *August* 1189. His Body was conveyed thence to *Ely* and interred in the Cathedral Church: And, as he died intestate, all his effects, consisting of Plate and Jewels to a great amount, besides 3200 Marks of Silver in ready money, were seized to the King's use.<sup>4</sup>

#### IV. WILLIAM LONGCHAMP, 1189.

CHANCELLOR of *England*, was elected Bishop of this See Sept. 15. 1189, at a general assembly of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal at the Abby of *Pipewell*<sup>5</sup> in *Northamptonshire*; Consecrated at *Lambeth* Dec. 31, 1189, and inthroned Jan. 6. He was a *Norman*, and of low extraction, but raised by King *Richard* to be one of the greatest Subjects that we read of in this Kingdom. Upon the King's going to the Holy Land, he appointed him also Chief Justice of the Southern part of *England*, and Protector of the Realm; and that nothing might be wanting to him in Dignity, the Pope, at the King's request, and in consideration of one thousand pounds, constituted him Legate.<sup>6</sup> These Powers he is said to have exerted with great insolence, pride, and oppression: however, there is no doubt but it was chiefly his greatness that drew upon him the envy and hatred of the Nobility; his inflexible loyalty to his Prince whilst abroad, made him the more vigilant to guard against every step that was taken against his interest. *John* Earl of *Moreton* the King's Brother showing by all his actions, that he had an eye on the Crown, the Chancellor was the more watchful of him, so as to guard against that undue influence he was attempting to make on the minds of the people: which drew on him the resentment of that Prince: soon after his vigorous proceedings against *Geoffrey* Archbishop of *York* another of the King's Brothers, who had lately come into *England* contrary to his engagements to the King,<sup>7</sup> first gave his enemies an handle to raise the clamours of the people against him. Earl *John* laid hold on the occasion, and put himself at the head of that party of the Nobility which was disgusted; and they all loudly exclaimed against the pride and insolence of the Chancellor, and loaded him with all the grossest calumnies, true or false, that were most apt to irritate the populace against him. In the mean time, an assembly of the Lords being called, met together at *St. Paul's London*, in an irregular and tumultuous manner; and

<sup>1</sup> MSS Biblioth. Harleian. in Museo Britan. N<sup>o</sup>. 258, — et 3721. <sup>2</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. i. pag. 57. <sup>3</sup> Chron. Gervasi inter X Script. col. 1549. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. — Matth. Paris Hist. pag. 127. — Matth. Westm. ad annum. <sup>5</sup> Hoveden, pag. 94. — Matth. Westm. ad annum. — Radulf. de Diceto, ad annum. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. <sup>7</sup> He had promised to the King on oath, whilst they were in *Normandy*, not to return into *England* before the expiration of three years. Hoveden, p. 95. — Chron. Joh. Bromton, col. 1171.



and several Articles of impeachment were preferred against him: and the Chancellor not daring to trust himself in such an assembly, they proceeded to sentence of excommunication; which had such an effect, that he thought it most convenient to provide for his own safety, and retire out of the Kingdom in disguise; but being discovered in his passage in woman's apparel, he was brought back to *Dover*, and treated with the utmost contumely and rigour, and there imprisoned. With great difficulty his enlargement was at length obtained by the intercession of other Prelates. Upon which he retired into *Normandy*, waiting the return of King *Richard*; and so far satisfied him of his innocence, that the King restored him to the highest degree of love and confidence; he returned into *England* 1114, and continued to hold the office of Chancellor to his death. In the year 1117, the King appointed him his Ambassador to the Pope; in his journey he fell sick, and died at *Poictiers* Jan. 30, and was buried in a Cistercian Abby called *Pymy* or *Pinu*,<sup>1</sup> his heart being brought to *Ely* and there deposited in his Cathedral.

NOTWITHSTANDING the Character of this Prelate has been represented by most Historians in a very unfavourable light; yet there are Writers<sup>2</sup> of unquestionable credit, who describe him as a wise, generous, good-natured man; and one whose probity and personal merit alone recommended him to the King; and that the publick hatred he incurred, was the effect of envy and popular misconstruction, rather than of a conduct that could not be justified.

DURING his Regency, in order to strengthen the place of his Residence, he surrounded the *Tower of London* with a large and deep Foss, intending to flood it by a communication with the river *Thames*.

## V. EUSTACHIUS, 1197.

A MAN of considerable learning,<sup>3</sup> Archdeacon of *Richmond*, Treasurer of the Church of *York*, and Dean of *Salisbury*, and Keeper of the Great Seal,<sup>4</sup> (in the absence of the Chancellor) was elected Bishop at *Waldereil* in *Normandy*<sup>5</sup> by the Prior and Convent of *Ely*, summoned thither by the King for that purpose, being now advanced to the dignity of Chancellor; and was consecrated March 8, 1197-8, by *Hubert* Archbishop of *Canterbury*.<sup>6</sup> Being in high favour with the King he obtained certain privileges to himself and Successors, particularly of hunting in the Forest of *Somersham*. But upon the death of King *Richard*, he was displaced from the office of Chancellor, and *Hubert* Archbishop of *Canterbury* appointed in his stead. He was one of the Bishops who accepted from the Pope the employment of publishing the Act of excommunication of King *John*, and putting the Realm under an Interdict; soon after which he together with the Bishops of *London* and *Worcester* fled beyond Sea — and were outlawed. After various negotiations the King disgracefully sub-

<sup>1</sup> Radulf. de Diceto, col. 696. — Chron. Gervasii, col. 1597. <sup>2</sup> See Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 302, et pag. 632, Note p. <sup>3</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 303. <sup>4</sup> Madox Hist. Exchequer, p. 53. <sup>5</sup> MS. Registrum Epi. Elien. A. fol. 39. <sup>6</sup> Radulf. de Diceto, col. 701. — Matth. Paris Hist. pag. 162.



submitted to the Pope's Authority. And the Bishop of *Ely* returned, and received a Confirmation from the King of the privileges granted by King *Richard I.* and also the Patronage of the Abbey of *Thorney*, and died at *Reading* <sup>1</sup> Feb. 5. 1215. and was buried in his Cathedral Church near *St. Mary's* Altar, in the old Chapel of *St. Mary*.<sup>2</sup>

THE building of the West part of the Cathedral called the *Galilee* is ascribed to Him.<sup>3</sup> He also granted to the Convent a parcel of Ground, lying between their Refectory and the Gallery leading from the Bishop's Palace to the Cathedral, to make a Cellar; and gave much Plate and Ornaments to his Church, and appropriated the Churches of *Steuchworth* and *Melreth* to the use of the Convent: and left 5 Marks yearly for one Taper to be kept burning before *St. Mary's* Altar; and two Marks and a half for his Anniversary.<sup>4</sup>

AFTER the death of *Eustachius*, the Monks elected *Geoffry de Burgh* Archdeacon of *Norwich*; but before his Election was published, they revoked it, and chose *Robert of York* for their Bishop; to whom the King refused his assent; however, having got possession of the place, he held it without Consecration near five years; and assumed to himself the disposal of all the Church-preferment and other rights of the See, as Bishop.

IT appears that *Robert* had taken part with *Lewis* the Dauphin of *France* against King *John*; and after the accession of *Henry III.* he went over into *France*; and there published false rumours of the King's death, to raise disturbances in this Kingdom, and promote an invasion. Whereupon the King wrote a most submissive and pressing Letter to the Pope; <sup>5</sup> informing him that *Robert* had been preintruded into the See, in order to put *Lewis* into possession of the *Isle of Ely*, which he calls one of the best fortified places in the Kingdom; <sup>6</sup> and therefore beseeching him to take upon himself the care of providing a proper person for the See of *Ely* by his own authority. Accordingly the Pope commissioned *Pandulf* his Legate here in *England*, and *Stephen* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, <sup>7</sup> to cassate both Elections, and by apostolick authority, to prefer to the See of *Ely*,

## VI. JOHN DE FONTIBUS, 1220.

ABBOT of *Fountains* in *Yorkshire*, who was consecrated at *London* Mar. 8. 1220.<sup>8</sup> by *Stephen Langton* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and enthroned the 25th of that month in his Cathedral Church. He was a Man of unexceptionable Character,<sup>9</sup> and very kind to the Monks of his Church; to whom he gave the great tithes of all his Demesnes in *Hadham*, to be equally divided between the Monks and the Poor on his

<sup>1</sup> MS Harleian. N<sup>o</sup>. 258. — Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 633. <sup>2</sup> MS Lambeth, N<sup>o</sup>. 448. pag. 96. <sup>3</sup> MS Harleian. ut supra. Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 634. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. — The Parochial Church of *St. Mary* in *Ely* was rebuilt in his time, and dedicated by him on *St. James's* Day; but the year is not mentioned. Registr. Ep<sup>i</sup>. M. pag. 165. <sup>5</sup> Rymer. Fœdera. vol. i. p. 229. <sup>6</sup> — 'Certum est enim, quod Civitas Elyensis est optima munitio Regni nostri; et quod dictus Robertus ibi extitit preintrusus, ut, sicut res se habuit, reciperetur ibi Dominus Lodovicus.' ibid. <sup>7</sup> MS Harleian. N<sup>o</sup>. 258. fol. 83, &c. <sup>8</sup> Matth. West. ad annum. <sup>9</sup> Ibid.



his Anniversary.<sup>1</sup> He also appropriated the Rectory of *Witchford* to the use of the Convent; confirmed to them all the Grants of his Predecessors; and gave to his Church several rich vestments and ornaments: and having sat Bishop 5 years, 8 weeks, and 2 days, from his Consecration; he died at *Dounham* May 6. 1225; and was buried before the High Altar.<sup>2</sup>

## VII. GEOFFRY DE BURGH, 1225.

**B**ROTHER of *Hubert de Burgh* Chief Justice of *England*, a man of considerable learning, and Archdeacon of *Norwich*, who had been elected five years before, was again elected, and was consecrated at *London* by *Stephen* Archbishop of *Canterbury* June 29. 1225.<sup>3</sup> He caused great part of *St. Etheldreda's* Shrine to be gilt, and gave a very large and valuable piece of plate for an ornament on the upper part of it;<sup>4</sup> and charged 300 acres of land in *Wisbech*, and 100 acres in *Elm*, (recovered from the waters in his time,) with one mark annual rent, towards finding a Taper constantly burning before her Altar.<sup>5</sup> In his time the Church of *St. Andrew* in *Cambridge* was given to the Convent by *Abfalom* then Rector and Patron of the same; and was by this Bishop soon after appropriated to the Sacrist office.<sup>6</sup> He also appropriated the Rectory of *Littleport* to the Hospital of *St. Mary Magdalene* in *Ely*: and gave the Convent 120 acres of land in *Bluntesham* for his Anniversary.<sup>7</sup> He died Dec. 17. 1228. and was buried in his Cathedral Church on the North-side of the Choir.<sup>8</sup> Upon his death, the King according to custom, took possession of the Temporalities of the See: And *Roger de Brigham* Prior of the Church dying soon after, the King also took possession of the revenues of that dignity; which being contrary to custom, the Monks remonstrated: and the King taking the case under examination, ordered the Priory to be restored to the Monks; after which they were permitted to proceed to Election, which fell upon

## VIII. HUGH NORTHWOLD, 1229.

**A**BBOT of *St. Edmundsbury*, who was consecrated on *June* 10. 1229.<sup>9</sup> Whilst he was Abbot, he was one of the King's Itinerant Justices in the County of *Norfolk* in the year 1227;<sup>10</sup> and after he was made Bishop, he was sent Ambassador, with others, to *Raymund* Earl of *Provence*, to conclude a contract of Marriage between the King and *Alienora* his Second Daughter, Sister to the Queen of *France*, and to conduct her into *England*.<sup>11</sup>

HIS

<sup>1</sup> MS Regist. Ep'i M. p. 168. <sup>2</sup> — 'in pavimento, coram magno Altari, ad pedes Johannis de Crauden.' MSS Cotton, Titus. A. 1. et Harleian. N<sup>o</sup> 3721. <sup>3</sup> MS. Harleian. N<sup>o</sup> 258. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. <sup>5</sup> MS. Regist. Ep'i Elien. M. p. 175. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. pag. 175, 176. <sup>7</sup> Ibid. <sup>8</sup> MSS. 258, 3721. in Biblioth. Harleian. <sup>9</sup> Matth. Paris Hist. pag. 306. — Matth. Westmon. ad annum. <sup>10</sup> MS Wren, de rebus Eccles. Norwic. <sup>11</sup> He set out about the end of October 1235, and returning with the Princess, landed at Dover before the middle of January: the King meeting her at Canterbury, the Nuptials were there solemnized with great joy and magnificence on Monday the 14th, and her Coronation at Westminster on the Sunday following. Rymer. Fœdera, vol. i. p. 344, 346, 351. — Matth. Paris Hist. p. 354.



HIS publick and secular employments did not hinder him from attending chiefly to the duties of his function. In his Episcopal Character he was one of the most eminent examples of piety and virtue in his time; great commendations are bestowed on him by a contemporary Historian,<sup>1</sup> for his religious course of life, his hospitality, and liberality to the poor: Besides this, he was a generous benefactor to the Monks of *Ely*, by adding to their revenues, and confirming to them all the former grants of his Predecessors:<sup>2</sup> He also, with their consent, enacted several Statutes for the better government of the Convent:<sup>3</sup> He also united the two Hospitals of *St. John Baptist* and *St. Mary Magdalene* in *Ely*; gave them Statutes and a Rule, and put them under the immediate government of the Sacrist of *Ely*, as the Bishop's Vicar; reserving to himself and Successors, the power of admitting and displacing the members; by his ordinance the Hospital was to consist of 13 Chaplains and Brethren, who were to have a common Refectory and Dormitory, and wear a uniform habit. And for the advancement of Academical learning, he placed some Scholars and Students in the Hospital of *St. John* the Evangelist in *Cambridge*, then belonging to the patronage of the Bishops of *Ely*; and incorporated them with the former members:<sup>4</sup> in which state they continued till about the year 1280; when not agreeing well together, *Hugh Balsbam*, Bishop of *Ely*, removed these Scholars to his new foundation near *St. Peter's* Church without *Trumpington-gates*. He also augmented the revenues of his See, by the purchase of the Manor of *Bramford* in *Suffolk*, with the advowson of the Churches of *Westerfield* and *Whittenton*, now *Whitton* annexed, and the Manor of *Toterige* in *Hertfordshire*;<sup>5</sup> both which he settled on his Successors; who were to pay out of the profits 20 Marks yearly to the Four Chaplains of the Chantry<sup>6</sup> he had founded in the Cathedral, to pray for his Soul, and the Souls of King *Henry* the

<sup>1</sup> Matth. Paris Hist. pag. 767. <sup>2</sup> Confirmavit iis speciatim 30 Marcas de Eccles. Meldburn, 10 Marc. de Eccles. Haukeston, et Ecclesiam de Sutton ad hospitalitatem sectandam, et Ecclesiam de Wicham ad vestimenta Monachorum, quas eis dederat; Salvis Vicariis dictarum Ecclesiarum; confirmavit etiam eis 280 acras, quas eis dederat in Wissebech, and 200 acras quas de licentia ejus emerant in Leverington, and 100 acras in Berking, quas assignaverat ad Anniverfarium suum, cum aliis redditibus, et 30 acras, in assarto de Somersham, et 1 marc. reddit. quam emerat de Henrico Muschet in Ely, and 30 acras in Pulham, &c. et omnia alia quæ habuerunt de dono Ep'i, sicut Cartæ ipsius plenius testantur.— Vide Cartam ipsam in Regist. Episcopi Elien. A. pag. 83. <sup>3</sup> MS Registr. Ep'i Elien. A. pag. 73. <sup>4</sup> So Parker in his Σκελετός Cantabr. MS Coll. Caio-Gonvil. p. 35. which seems more probable than that Hugh Balsbam first placed these Scholars in that Hospital: for afterwards, in the year 1340, a dispute arising between the Master and Brethren of the Hospital, and the Master and Scholars of Peter-house, about the right to the patronage of St. Peter's Church; the matter was referred to Bishop Montacute's arbitration, who adjudged it to the Scholars. Registrum Montacute, Fol. 17. — And it is there said, among other things, 'Et Magister et Scholares predicti exhibuerunt Literas Dni Hugonis de Balsbam dudum Epi Elien. et alia documenta, per que constitit evidenter, quod predicti Scholares Domus Sti Petri, dudum fuerunt unum corpus &c. una cum Fratribus Hospitalis Sti Johannis, Ecclesias appropriatas, et bona &c. in communi habentes, et per longa tempora simul in eodem Hospitali degentes; processu vero temporis inter ipsos Fratres et Scholares discordiæ materia fuscitata, predictus Prædecessor noster dicti Hospitalis Fundator et Patronus ad procuracionem tunc Fratrum Hospitalis ejusdem, et de consensu Scolarum predictorum &c. dictum corpus divisit, &c. ipsosque Scholares transtulit ad Hospitia juxta Ecclesiam Sti Petri predictam, ubi nunc morantur &c.' ibid. <sup>5</sup> MS Registrum Ep'i Elien. M. — pag. 187, 188. <sup>6</sup> This was afterwards called the *Chantry on the Green*, from the place where these Chaplains had their habitation; which was opposite to the Palace, on the Site whereof now stands the House of John Waddington Esq;



the Third and *Alienora* his Queen, and their Children, and the Souls of the Bishops and Monks of *Ely*, and of all their Benefactors: and that this Service might not be interrupted, he obtained a grant from the King, for reserving at all times those 20 Marks, for the use of his Four Chaplains, in the vacancy of the See, whenever the Temporalities should come into the King's hands.

IN the year 1235 he began the foundation of that magnificent part of the Cathedral at the East-end consisting of six Arches, called the Presbytery; which work he continued till the year 1251. The expense of this Fabrick was 535*ol.* 18*s.* 8*d.* He also finished the great Western Tower with a lofty Spire of timber covered with lead; this Spire was taken down in the reign of *Henry the Sixth*, when the Tower was raised with stone-work about 64 feet higher, and put into the present form; he likewise rebuilt a great part of his Episcopal Palace in *Ely*; and at *Ditton*, *Shipdam*, and almost all the other Manor-houses belonging to his See, he expended large sums in rebuilding and repairs.<sup>1</sup>

ON *September* 17. 1252. the Whole Church was dedicated with great solemnity, to the honour of *St. Mary*, *St. Peter*, and *St. Etheldreda*:<sup>2</sup> and on this occasion he had the honour of entertaining the King himself, Prince *Edward* his Son, and many of his Nobles and Prelates, most magnificently. He died at *Dounham* Aug. 6. 1254.<sup>3</sup> and was honourably buried behind the High Altar at the feet of *St. Etheldreda*, in the middle of the Presbytery, which he had lately built; and into which he had solemnly translated the Reliques of *St. Etheldreda*, *Withburga*, *Sexburga*, *Ermenilda*, and of *St. Alban*.<sup>4</sup> His Monument was a raised one of grey marble, with his effigies curiously carved, in his episcopal habit, and as it were inthroned or installed; at the head were angels supporting a Crown of Glory; on the sides of the Stall were carved, on the right hand a King, an Abbot, and a Monk; on the left, *St. Etheldreda*, an Abbess crowned, and a Nun; and at the foot of the Stall, the story of *St. Edmund's* Martyrdom: alluding to the founding the Church of *Ely*, and *St. Edmund's* Abby, over which he had presided. This Monument which stood close by *St. Etheldreda's* Shrine, was probably removed at the time when that Shrine was demolished; and the effigies being casually laid on Bishop *Barnet's* Tomb,<sup>5</sup> has by the incurious been taken for the effigies of that Bishop.

## IX. WILLIAM DE KILKENNY, 1254.

ARCHDEACON of *Coventry* and the King's Chancellor<sup>6</sup> was elected at *Ely* by the Convent about the middle of *October* 1254. and was consecrated at *Boloyse* in *Savoy* by *Boniface* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, then resident in that country, of which he was a native, *August* 15. 1255.<sup>7</sup> an act of Consecration unprecedented in any case of *English* Bishops. On his advancement to this See, he laid down the Office of Chancellor, which he had discharged in the most unexceptionable manner.<sup>8</sup> During the short time that he presided at *Ely*, he appropriated to the Convent there,

<sup>1</sup> MSS Harleian. No. 258, et 3721. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. <sup>3</sup> MS Harleian. 258. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. <sup>5</sup> Plate XV. <sup>6</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. i. p. 488. <sup>7</sup> Matth. Paris Hist. p. 782. — Matth. Westm. ad annum. <sup>8</sup> Madox Hist. Excheq. pag. 48.



the Churches of *Melburn* and *Swafham*, for the increase of hospitality. He had the character of a modest, faithful, and well-learned man, and very eminent as a Canonist and Civilian.<sup>1</sup> In 1256. being sent Ambassador to negotiate a treaty between our King and *Alfonso* King of *Spain*, he lived but just long enough to finish that business; for the Treaty was signed by him at *Sugbo* in that Kingdom Sept. 20. 1256.<sup>2</sup> and he died on the 22d or 23d of the same month, and was there buried; his Heart was conveyed to *Ely*, and deposited in the Presbytery on the north side, between two pillars near the high Altar; where we still see a Monument<sup>3</sup> or Cenotaph, which was erected to his Memory. He left to the Convent by his Will, 200 Marks<sup>4</sup> for founding a perpetual Chantry of Two Chaplains in the Cathedral Church: And gave to the Priory of *Barnwell* 200 Marks, for founding two Divinity Exhibitions at *Cambridge*.<sup>5</sup>

## X. HUGH DE BALSHAM. 1257.

UPON the death of *William de Kilkenny*, the King granted the Convent licence to elect, and recommended *Henry de Wengham* his Chancellor to be elected into the Bishoprick: But the Monks were determined rather by their regard towards the personal merits of HUGH DE BALSHAM their Sub-Prior, and chose him. The King being exasperated upon this occasion, gave free liberty to *Johannes de Walerannus*, who had the custody of the Temporalities during the vacancy, to commit great waste and havock throughout the Woods, Lands, Fisheries, and Villages belonging to the Bishoprick, with grievous exactions on the Tenants; and refused to confirm the Election with his consent: though the Chancellor in consideration of the known worth of HUGH DE BALSHAM expressed his readiness to decline his pretensions.<sup>6</sup>

UPON his seeming indifference, the King and the Archbishop of *Canterbury* laboured earnestly to get *Adam de Marisco* a Minorite Friar elected. However, HUGH, in consequence of an Order made by the Court of *Rome*, that every Bishop Elect should make his personal appearance at *Rome*, though at an immense expense, prosecuted his Appeal thither; and obtained of Pope *Alexander* a Confirmation of his Election: and was accordingly consecrated by the Pope October 14. 1257. This Appeal to the Court of *Rome* was first made by the King's Proctors, who found that the Archbishop intended, after cancelling the Election of HUGH, to provide or substitute another in his room, upon the pretence of a Devolution to himself as Archbishop.<sup>7</sup> It appears, from the authority just cited, that the custom of this Convent was for the whole Body to elect Seven, as their Proctors; after which these Seven proceeded to the Election of the Bishop.

SOON

<sup>1</sup> Matth. Paris Hist. pag. 769. <sup>2</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. ii. p. 84, 85, 86. <sup>3</sup> Plate XVI. <sup>4</sup> MSS Harleian. 258, 3721. <sup>5</sup> This Mr. Baker supposes to have been one of the first endowments for Exhibitions. See his MS Hist. of St. John's College Cambridge in the British Museum. <sup>6</sup> Matth. Paris Hist. p. 812. <sup>7</sup> Ex Decret. Pap. excerpt. in MS Ep'i M. p. 37.



SOON after his return from *Rome*, in the year 1258. 42° *Henr. III.* he sued the Master of the Knights Templars, before *Hugh Bigot* Justiciary of *England*;¹ for his right of Hostilage in the New Temple; when he set forth, that *Hugh Norwold* and *William de Kilkenny*, and others his Predecessors had, and were in rightful possession of Hostilage there, whenever they came to *London*; and particularly the Use of the Great Hall, the Chapel at the entrance into the Hall, Chambers, a Kitchen, Pantry, Buttery, a Cellar for wine throughout the year, a stable, and all other easements to the said Hostilage belonging; with free ingress and egress at all times; of which the said Master had disseised him, and denied him entrance: and laid his damage at 200*l.* The event was, the Bishop recovered his right, with Costs.

DURING his Episcopate, we find a dispensation granted by the Pope to the Monks of *Ely*, in consideration of their Cathedral Church being situate on an eminence, and exposed to cold and sharp winds; to wear Caps suited to their Order.² In the year 1268. the Bishop issued out an Order to his Archdeacon to summon all Parish Priests &c. to repair to the Cathedral once a year in Whitfun-week and pay their Pentecostals, and to exhort their Parishioners to do the like; under pain of Ecclesiastical Censures.³ It was this Bishop that settled the Distinction of Jurisdiction between the Chancellor of the University of *Cambridge*, and the Archdeacon of *Ely*, in 1276.⁴

HE purchased for himself and Successors Bishops of *Ely*, the Manor of *Tyd*,⁵ which he annexed to his See: he also purchased the Patronage of Three Churches, viz. *Beckswell* in *Norfolk*, and *Hinton* and *Conington* in his own Diocese; and these he settled on his Successors, in recompence for Three Churches belonging to his See, which he had appropriated; namely, *Wisebech* and *Foxton* to the use of the Convent of *Ely*, and *Triplow* which he had assigned to his Scholars residing in *Cambridge*.⁶ In the year 1280. from his affection to Learning, and respecting the state of the poor Scholars in the University of *Cambridge*, who were much put to it for conveniency of lodging, from the high rents exacted by the Towns-men;⁷ he obtained a Licence from King *Edward I.* for founding a College of Students or Scholars there, *secundum Regulam Scolariū Oxon. qui de Merton cognominantur*:⁸ intending at first, as it should seem, to have converted the Hospital of *St. John* in *Cambridge*, where some Scholars under the patronage of the Bishops of *Ely*, then resided,⁹ into a College; but afterwards, seeing occasion to alter his design, he removed these Scholars to two Hostles near *St. Peter's Church* without *Trumpington-Gate*; and by an Instrument dated *March 31. 1284.*¹⁰ ordained that they should for ever be styled *The Scholars of the Bishops of Ely*; and put them into immediate and perpetual possession of those Two Hostles, and of *St. Peter's Church* before-mentioned, with the tythe of the two Mills thereto belonging; all which the Brethren of the Hospital before used to have; and to which ordinance of the Bishop they submitted. And that the Brethren of the Hof-

¹ MS Cotton. Claudius. C. 11. fol. 328. b.    ² Regist. M. p. 41.    ³ Ibid. pag. 195.    ⁴ MS Epi Elien. A. fol. 104.    ⁵ MS Registr. Epi Elien. R. fol. 228.    ⁶ MS Harleian. 258.    ⁷ Additions to Camden [b] col. 412.    ⁸ Pat. 9. Ed. 1. m. 28.    ⁹ Vide supra pag. 147. Note 4.    ¹⁰ MS Harleian. 258.



Hospital might not be losers by this appointment; he further ordained that they should have certain Rents, and several Houses near to their Hospital, which he had before assigned to his Scholars. By his last Will he left to his Scholars many Books in Divinity and other Sciences; and 300 Marks for erecting new buildings; with which sum they purchased a piece of ground on the South-side of the said Church, where they built a very fine Hall.<sup>1</sup> This was the first endowed College in *Cambridge*. The University, in grateful respect to his memory, by an Instrument dated at *Cambridge* 7 Kal. Jun. A.D. 1291. and sealed with the University Seal; obliged themselves annually to celebrate a solemn commemoration of his Obit.<sup>2</sup> He died at *Doddington* June 16.<sup>3</sup> 1286. and was buried the 24th of the same Month in his Cathedral Church, before the High Altar, by *Thomas de Ingoldesthorpe* Bishop of *Rocheſter*.

## XI. JOHN DE KIRKEBY. 1286.

THE Prior and Convent having received the King's licence to elect a new Bishop, dated at *Paris* July 8. anno 14.<sup>4</sup> JOHN DE KIRKEBY, Canon of *Wells* and *York*, Archdeacon of *Coventry*, Dean of *Winburn* in *Dorsetshire*, and Treasurer to King *Edward* I, was by them elected July 26. 1286: he was at that time only Deacon; was ordained Priest by Archbishop *Peckham* at *Feverſham* Sept. 21. and consecrated the day after at *Canterbury*.<sup>5</sup> In the latter part of the reign of *Henry* III, he had been Keeper of the Seal;<sup>6</sup> which office he held at the time of that King's death:<sup>7</sup> before his advancement to the See of *Ely*, he had been elected Bishop of *Rocheſter* in 1283; but declined accepting of that dignity, as appears by an act of renunciation dated June 16. that year.<sup>8</sup>

HE is said to have involved himself too much in secular affairs, so as to have neglected his Pastoral function; and in the exercise of his office of Treasurer was generally thought to have carried his power to excess: In the year 1289. whilst the King was abroad, he demanded of the Parliament an Aid, in discharge of the King's expenses for three years past in *France*; which the Nobles resolutely, by the mouth of the Earl of *Gloceſter*, refused to grant till after the King's return home: Upon which the Treasurer by his own authority demanded and levied heavy contributions from the Cities, Burroughs, and the King's Demefnes throughout the Kingdom.<sup>9</sup> However, he was a considerable Benefactor to the Church of *Ely*, by giving to the Convent a certain Inn called *Le Bell*, opposite to the Friars Minors in *London*, for celebrating his Anniversary; and by his Will left to his Successors a Messuage, and nine Cottages situate in the Suburbs of *London* in *Holbourn*;<sup>10</sup> which Messuage became thenceforth the Capital Mansion of the Bishops of *Ely*.<sup>11</sup>

IN

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. <sup>2</sup> Registr. Coll. Sti Petri, fol. 27. <sup>3</sup> MSS Harleian. 258. et 3721. — diem autem 15. nonnulli MSS ponunt. <sup>4</sup> MS Registr. Epi M. pag. 119. <sup>5</sup> MS Cotton. Titus. A. 1. <sup>6</sup> Madox Hist. Excheq. pag. 49. <sup>7</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. i. pag. 888. <sup>8</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 352. Note o. <sup>9</sup> Chron. T. Wikes, pag. 117. <sup>10</sup> MS Registr. Epi R. fol. 214. — MS Cotton. Claudius, C. 11. fol. 345, &c. <sup>11</sup> This estate was so much enlarged and improved, by purchases of land and other buildings made by his Successors; that the whole, consisting of Buildings, gardens, pastures, and enclosures, contained about 20 acres, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.



IN the Spring of the year 1290. having been attacked with an acute fever; he seemed afterwards to be so well recovered, as to be thought past danger; but venturing out too soon, and not taking proper care of himself, in a few days he had a relapse, which proved fatal to him. He died at *Ely* March 26. 1290. and was buried, (*Ralph de Walpole* Bishop of *Norwich* performing the funeral office,) in his Cathedral Church before the Cross, on the North-side of the Choir, and near the Altar of *St. John Baptist*.

## XII. WILLIAM DE LUDA, 1290.

**P**REBENDARY of Saint *Paul's* London, and of *York* and *Lincoln*, Archdeacon of *Durham*, Dean of *St. Martin's le Grand* London, and Keeper of the King's Wardrobe, was elected Bishop by the Convent May 4. 1290. and the same Month ordained Deacon, and confirmed by *John Peckham* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and by him ordained Priest at *Bocking* in *Essex* Sept. 13; on the 1st of *October* following he was consecrated Bishop in *St. Mary's* Church in *Ely*, and the same day enthroned in his Cathedral Church: at this Consecration the Archbishop was assisted by Seven of his Suffragan Bishops, *Robert Burnel* Bishop of *Bath* and *Wells*, the King's Chancellor, *John de Pontys* Bishop of *Winchester*, *Oliver de Sutton* of *Lincoln*, *Ralph de Walpole* of *Norwich*, *William de la Cornere* of *Salisbury*, *Peter* Bishop of *Exeter*, and *Amian* Bishop of *Saint Asaph*.<sup>1</sup> The occasion of this extraordinary assembly of Bishops at that time, was a Provincial Council or Convocation of the Clergy, which the Archbishop had some time before summoned to meet at *Ely* on the 2d of *October*, to consider about an Aid or Subsidy to be granted to the King: accordingly the Bishops, and the Clergy by their Proctors, met in the Chapter-House at *Ely* the day after the Bishop of *Ely's* Consecration, and gave the King a *Tenth* of all their spiritual goods for one year.<sup>2</sup>

IN 1292. he is said to have been appointed Chancellor,<sup>3</sup> on the death of *Robert Burnel* Bishop of *Bath* and *Wells*; though it is probable he held that Office but a little time. However, he was highly valued by the King for his abilities and integrity: and the Character given of him by a contemporary Historian,<sup>4</sup> is that of 'Vir magnificus et eminentis scientiæ;' and he further adds, that he had conducted himself so commendably and uprightly in his office of Treasurer of the King's Wardrobe, as to gain the esteem of all, from the highest to the lowest.

IN the year 1294, we find a Submission made to the Bishop by the University of *Cambridge*, in a dispute between *Henry de Boyton* Chancellor of *Cambridge* and his adherents on the one side, and other Masters Regents in Theology and other Faculties on the other, concerning the Statutes, Customs, and Privileges of the University: the Cause was discussed before the Bishop's Official in *St. Michael's* Church *Cambridge*.<sup>5</sup>

OUR

<sup>1</sup> MS Harleian. 258. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. — A. Bp. Wake's State of the Church, &c. pag. 228. <sup>3</sup> Chron. T. Wikes, ad annum. <sup>4</sup> Thomas Wikes, ut supra. <sup>5</sup> MS Registrum Epi A. fol. 105.



OUR Bishop was appointed by the King in 1296, one of his Commissioners, under the mediation of the Pope, to settle the conditions of a Truce between the Kings of *France* and *England*.<sup>1</sup>

THE King having in the beginning of the year 1297, ordered the Temporalities of the Clergy to be taken into his hands,<sup>2</sup> for their refusing to grant him an aid in defence of the Realm, in consequence of the Pope's inhibition; and on their persisting in their refusal, having caused it to be proclaimed that they were out of his protection; soon after came to *Ely*; as appears by several Letters and Writs of the King dated at *Ely February* 12, that year:<sup>3</sup> probably the King's business there, was to take the advice of the Bishop and some other of his faithful Counsellors then present; for the Bishop of *Ely* was one of those Prelates who were mediators between the King and the Clergy, and found out the means of restoring them to the King's protection, by giving him the Fifth of all their ecclesiastical goods for that year.<sup>4</sup>

HE died *March* 27,<sup>5</sup> 1298; and was buried in the Presbytery on the South-side, between two pillars near the High Altar, at the entrance into the old Chapel of *St. Mary*.<sup>6</sup>

HIS predecessor *John de Kirkeby* had left by Will to the See of *Ely* his Mansion House and certain tenements adjoining, in *Holbourn* in the Suburbs of *London*: and this Bishop purchased several other houses, and some lands adjoining, and left them to the Church of *Ely* and his Successors, on condition, that his immediate Successor should pay 1000 Marks to his Executors, within 3 months after his Confirmation: he also gave by his Will 200 Marks, to purchase 20 Marks a year for maintenance of Three Chaplains, to pray for his Soul and the Souls of the Bishops of *Ely* and their Successors for ever in the Chapel there; besides three houses for their habitation.<sup>7</sup>

ON the death of *William de Luda* the King's Officers seized not only the Temporalities of the Bishoprick, but also the revenues of the Priory.<sup>8</sup> On which occasion the Prior and Convent, rather than be subject to such inconvenience for the future, by a fine of 1000 Marks obtained a Charter<sup>9</sup> from the King, of such a total separation of the Priory from the Bishoprick, as should exempt it from such seizure in any future vacancy of the See.

### XIII. RALPH DE WALPOLE. 1299.

GREAT disputes arose in the Convent about the election of a new Bishop: by a majority of the Monks *John Saleman* their Prior was elected; others nominated *John de Langton* Chancellor to the King.<sup>10</sup> After the Election had been long

<sup>1</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. ii. pag. 703.    <sup>2</sup> Matth. West. ad an. 1296, & 1297.    <sup>3</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. ii. p. 756, &c. — Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 520.    <sup>4</sup> Henr. Knyghton, inter X Script. col. 2492.    <sup>5</sup> So Angl. Sacr. v. i. p. 522. — but Mar. 28, according to the *Ely* Obituary, MS Cotton. Vespaf. A. 6.    <sup>6</sup> MSS Harleian. 258, 3721.    <sup>7</sup> This Will was proved in the Court of Hustings London, 'Die lune prox. post festum S. Luce Evang. An. R. R. Edw. fil. Regis Hen. 26°.' MS Registr. Ep'i. A. fol. 156. i. e. ultimo.    <sup>8</sup> Wilkins Concil. vol. ii. p. 237.    <sup>9</sup> MS Registr. Ep'i. M. pag. 124, 612.    <sup>10</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 639. — Wilkins Concil. vol. ii. pag. 237, 238.



long time examined and discussed before the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and was near being terminated in favour of the Prior; the Chancellor thought fit to appeal to the Pope: and both went to *Rome* to solicit their cause in person. The Pope annulled the Election; but gave the Proctors of the Convent liberty to Nominate any one of the exempt<sup>1</sup> Abbots of the same Order, namely, of *St. Edmundsbury*, *Westminster*, *St. Augustins*, or *St. Albans*; which they refusing to do, by his own authority he translated to the See of *Ely*, RALPH DE WALPOLE, Bishop of *Norwich*, July 15. 1299; and promoted the Prior of *Ely* to the See of *Norwich*; and the Archbishoprick of *Dublin* being at that time vacant, by the death of *William Ottonine*, who died in his return from the Court of *Rome*, the Pope preferred *Richard de Ferringes* Archdeacon of *Canterbury* to it, and gave that Archdeaconry to *John de Langton* Chancellor of *England*.<sup>2</sup> *Ralph de Walpole* had formerly been Archdeacon of *Ely*; and after his advancement to the Bishoprick of *Norwich*, he presided over that Church with great reputation 11 years: and during his short presidency at *Ely*, exerted himself in the reformation and establishment of discipline in the Convent; particularly in a Visitation by him held in 1300, he with great care and diligence revised the Statutes and Ordinances by which the Church was then governed; and comparing them with the standing rules of the Benedictine Order, and the several reformations of them, that had been made by different Archbishops of *Canterbury*, and on special occasions had been prescribed by his Predecessors Bishops of *Ely*: selecting those which were necessary and proper to be continued; and abrogating and annulling such as by time, and change of things and circumstances, he found needless, superfluous, or obsolete; he compiled from the whole, with some additions of his own, one compleat body of statutes;<sup>3</sup> which he enjoined to be inviolably observed by the Convent for the future.

HE held the See of *Ely* only 3 years; and dying Mar. 20. 1302.<sup>4</sup> was buried in the Church before the high Altar, on the pavement.<sup>5</sup>

#### XIV. ROBERT DE ORFORD, 1302.

PRIOR of the Convent was elected Bishop by way of compromise April 14. 1302. but Archbishop *Winchelsea* refusing to consent, and confirm the election, on pretence of his being illiterate; the Convent appealed to the Court of *Rome*; where the Elect submitting his pretensions to Pope *Boniface*, he confirmed the election,

<sup>1</sup> Matth. Westm. ad annum 1298; cujus verba sunt, '— annuit eis gratiam eligendi unum de ' Abbatibus exemptis illius ordinis, nominatis [l. nominatis] Abbatibus de Westmon. de S. Ead- ' mundo, de S. Augustino, et de S. Albano. Quibus abnegantibus, &c.'—Godwinus autem (de Præ- ' ful. Angl. p. 259.) inquit, ' Is [Papa] igitur in Monachorum gratiam, eligendi denuo integram il- ' lis facultatem permittit, hac lege, ut ex totius Angliæ Abbatibus unum eligant, tribus tantum ex- ' ceptis, videlicet Westmonasteriensis, Buriensis, et S. Augustini Cantuariæ, quos non oportuit attin- ' gere.' Unde in tantum errorem incidit Godwinus, non possum conjectura assequi; nisi forsitan in loco ex Mattheo West. citato *exceptis* minus cautè pro *exemptis* legit. <sup>2</sup> Matth. Westm. ad annum 1298. <sup>3</sup> These Statutes occur in the Bishop's MS Register A. pag. 65, 66, &c. <sup>4</sup> Anno, scilicet, incipiente 1<sup>mo</sup> Januarii. <sup>5</sup> 'Coram Summo Altari in pavimento.' ita fere omnes Codices MSS.



tion, and consecrated him Bishop at *Rome*.<sup>1</sup> His Disbursements at that Court, together with the Expenses of his Journey, were estimated at about 15000*l*.<sup>2</sup> On his return to *Ely*, he refused being installed by the Archdeacon of *Canterbury*, who was present and claimed that privilege; but took possession of his place in the Church, by virtue of the Pope's authority. He confirmed all the grants of his predecessors to the Convent by his Charter;<sup>3</sup> in which are enumerated the distinct rights and privileges of the Bishop and Convent, in their several Lands and Manors belonging to the Church. He left by Will his books and furniture of his Chapel to the Convent; but the Archbishop claimed his right to the pontifical Ring,<sup>4</sup> as due to him on the death of every one of his Suffragans. He died at *Downham*, Jan. 21. 1310.<sup>5</sup> and was interred in the Church before the High Altar next to his immediate Predecessor.

## XV. JOHN DE KETENE. 1310.

THE vacancy of the See being certified to the King, as usual, and his licence obtained to proceed to an election; the Prior and Convent elected *John de Ketene*, Almoner of the Church, Mar. 2. 1310.<sup>6</sup> who was Confirmed by the Archbishop 10 July, and Consecrated Bishop at *Canterbury* 6 Sept. following.

IN this Bishop's time, viz. in the year 1313, King *Edward II.* sent Letters mandatory to borrow money of the Clergy and Ecclesiastical Corporations, to enable him to resist the Scots under *Robert le Brus*: 500 Marks were charged on the Bishop, and 300 on the Convent.<sup>7</sup> The same year *Robert*, Bishop of *Glasgow* in *Scotland*, who had been guilty of some offence against King *Edward II.* and had been sent to the Court of *Rome*, to answer for his conduct; was by the Pope remitted back to the King, to be kept in custody, till peace was restored between the two Kingdoms. The King sent him to *Ely*, and wrote to the Bishop and to the Prior and Convent,<sup>8</sup> to have him in their custody; and to provide lodgings fitting his state and condition within the precincts of the Priory, where he might be securely kept, and treated with respect, and be maintained at his own expense. He continued in this confinement, till about the middle of the next Summer; when he was removed to *York*, and thence to *Carlisle*.<sup>9</sup>

IN the year 1314, the King visited *Ely*, and spent his Easter there with royal magnificence: and during his stay there, being attended by the Bishop in viewing the inside of the Church, he took occasion to mention the dispute between the Monks of *St. Alban's* and *Ely*, about the Body of the English Proto-martyr *St. Alban*; which he decided in favour of the former.<sup>10</sup>

THIS Bishop died Mar. 14. 1316. and was buried before the High Altar, on the North-side, next to his immediate predecessors.<sup>11</sup>

## XVI.

<sup>1</sup> MS Harleian. 258. <sup>2</sup> Godwin de Præful. Angl. p. 260. <sup>3</sup> Registrum Ep'i A. fol. 38. <sup>4</sup> Wilkins Concil. vol. ii. p. 403. <sup>5</sup> Anno, viz. incipiente Jan. 1. <sup>6</sup> Anno, viz. incipiente 1. Jan. <sup>7</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. iii. pag. 429, 432. <sup>8</sup> Ibid. pag. 450. <sup>9</sup> Ibid. pag. 489, 496. <sup>10</sup> Walsingham Hist. Angl. pag. 104. <sup>11</sup> MS Harleian. 258.



## XVI. JOHN HOTHAM, 1316.

**P**REBENDARY of *York*, Rector of *Cottingham* in *Yorkshire*, and Chancellor of the King's Exchequer,<sup>1</sup> was elected Bishop, confirmed *July 20*, and consecrated at *Canterbury* the 3<sup>d</sup> of *October*, 1316.<sup>2</sup> He was much employed in publick business, both before and after his promotion to this See: in 1310, he was the King's Escheator beyond the *Trent*; <sup>3</sup> in 1313, he attended the King in his expedition into *France*, and was one of his Commissioners to treat with *Philip* King of *France*:<sup>4</sup> in 1314, and 1315, he was employed as the King's Plenipotentiary into *Ireland* to the Earl of *Ulster*; with full commission to transact and settle with the Rebels, and all other persons; to remove Officers, and to place others in their stead.<sup>5</sup> In *December*, 1316, he was sent, with others, on an Embassy to the Pope, to treat concerning the revenues of the Dutchy of *Aquitain*, lately mortgaged to the Pope for 16,000 Florins:<sup>6</sup> and soon after his return, *May 27*, 1317, was appointed Treasurer of the King's Exchequer;<sup>7</sup> and the year following made Lord Chancellor of *England*.<sup>8</sup> Whilst he was in that post, he obtained of the King in Parliament at *York*, a Confirmation of all the former Rights and Liberties of the Church of *Ely*, both of the Bishop and Convent.<sup>9</sup>

THE Bishop then Chancellor, was personally present in the Army, *Oct. 12*, 1319, when the *English* were defeated by the *Scots*, in the battle of *Myton* upon *Swale*; and narrowly escaped being taken prisoner:<sup>10</sup> after which he was appointed one of the Commissioners, to treat concerning peace with *Robert Brus*:<sup>11</sup> with whom a Truce was concluded for two years: and soon after resigned his Office of Chancellor.

THE Chapel of *St. Mary*, now *Trinity Church*, was begun in his time, by *John de Wisbech*, one of the Monks of this Church, at the charge of the Convent; the first Stone thereof was laid upon *Lady-day*, 1321, by *Alan de Walsingham*, Sub-prior of the Convent; who was on *Decr. 21*, following, appointed by the Bishop, Sacrist of the Church, a Man every way qualified for that station, especially as among his other accomplishments, he was eminently skilful in Architecture, and other mechanical Arts: he had not been quite two months in his office, before he had a favourable opportunity of exhibiting a specimen of his talents and abilities that way. In the beginning of the year 1322, on the 12<sup>th</sup> of *February* in the night, the old Tower in the middle of the Church suddenly falling down, ruined also the Choir that was under it. The Sacrist, to whom the care, oversight, and repairs of the Fabrick belonged, the

<sup>1</sup> Madox Hist. Excheq. p. 743. <sup>2</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 643. <sup>3</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. iii. p. 199, 209. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. pag. 405, 408. <sup>5</sup> Ibid. p. 492, 532, 533. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. pag. 582, 583, 584, et 624. <sup>7</sup> Madox Hist. Excheq. pag. 572. <sup>8</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. iii. p. 756. <sup>9</sup> MS Registr. Ep'i M. pag. 129, 130, &c. This Charter confirms, by *Inspeximus*, all the former Grants of Liberties to the Church of *Ely*; it is dated at *York* 1 Dec. 12<sup>o</sup> Edw. ii; and in the body of it, is said to be granted by the King, — 'De assensu Prelatorum, Comitum, Baronum, et aliorum Procerum Regni nostri in presenti Parlamento Nostro apud Eboracum convocato existentium.' <sup>10</sup> Weever's Funeral Monuments, p. 792. <sup>11</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. iii. p. 805.

the same year, formed the design and plan, and laid the foundations of that more convenient, as well as more elegant kind of structure in its room which we now see; it is of an Octagon form, supported by eight pillars, covered with a Dome, and crowned with a spacious Lantern. The Stone-work was compleated in 6 years; and the Wood-work raised thereon and covered with lead, in 14 years more: the whole was finished at the expense of the Convent; (with 20*l.* 1*s.* 0*d.* in benefactions;) in the year 1342; and cost 240*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*

WHILST the Convent were engaged in this expensive work; the Bishop generously took upon himself to compleat the Presbytery; by taking down, and rebuilding in a more elegant manner, that part of the old work eastward of the Dome, then carrying on by the Convent; and joining it to that part of the Church built by his Predecessor *Hugh Northwold*. This work, containing the space of three Arches lengthwise, was wholly rebuilt and finished at the Bishop's expense, which amounted to 203*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*<sup>1</sup>

IN the year 1323, our Bishop was charged with the King's Commission, to settle affairs in *Gascogny*, at that time in great disorder;<sup>2</sup> and was invested with full powers to appoint a Governor of the *Isle of Oleron*.<sup>3</sup>

IN the year 1324, he was again appointed Commissioner, to treat concerning Peace, with *Robert de Brus*.<sup>4</sup> The next year we find him joining Queen *Isabel* and her adherents; and in 1326, the King having retreated beyond the Sea with his favourite *Hugh la Despenser* Junior, and others; he was one of the confederate Prelates and Nobles, who appointed the King's eldest Son *Edward*, Duke of *Aquitain*, Guardian of the Realm, during the King's absence. On the return of the King, the confederate Lords sent and demanded the Great Seal; which being given up, was by the Queen and Duke of *Aquitain*, delivered to the Bishop of *Norwich*.<sup>5</sup> In the month of *January* 1327,<sup>6</sup> King *Edward* II. having made a formal resignation of the Kingdom, and his Son proclaimed King, by the name of *Edward* III; the Great Seal was again given to the Bishop of *Ely*, who caused to be engraven, on the lower part of it, two Flowers of the Arms of *France*.<sup>7</sup> The same year he purchased of *Henry de Grey*, Heir of *John de Grey*, Lord of *Rythyn*, a House and several parcels of Land, contiguous to his Manor of *Holbourn*, in the Suburbs of *London*, consisting of a Vineyard, Kitchen-Garden, Orchard, and inclosed pasture: he also purchased other Lands and Tenements of *John de Pelham*, situate near his said Manor of *Holbourn*, within the Parish of *St. Sepulchres*, *London*; all which he settled on the Church of *Ely*; dividing them between his Successors the Bishops, and the Convent;<sup>8</sup> to the latter

<sup>1</sup> *Angl. Sacr.* vol. i. pag. 647. *MSS Harleian.* 258. 3721. <sup>2</sup> *Rymer Fœd.* vol. iii. p. 986. <sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* vol. iv. p. 9. <sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* p. 104. <sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* p. 237. <sup>6</sup> Anno incipiente 1 Jan. <sup>7</sup> *Rymer Fœd.* vol. iv. p. 243. <sup>8</sup> The Dean and Chapter of *Ely* are now possessed of their share of this Estate; part of which is still called the *Vineyard*, situate in *St. Andrew's* Parish, *Holbourn*, with other Lands and Tenements there, and in *St. Sepulchre's* Parish in the Suburbs of *London*. How the Bishops of *Ely* came to be dispossessed of their part of it; and other Lands, &c. contiguous to their Manor-House, *Holbourn*, the curious Reader may find in N<sup>o</sup>. 3789. pag. 15. of the *Harleian MSS.* in the *British Museum*.



latter he gave also his Manor of *Dageney* at *Northwold* in *Norfolk*, and other Lands and Tenements in *Ely*, (afterwards called *Le Cellerers Rents*;) on condition they should give yearly 5*l.* to the Poor, and allow 5*l.* for a Pittance, and distribute 1*s.* to each of the Monks, and 2*s.* to the Presidents or Principal Officers of the Convent on his Anniversary; and the remainder to be applied to the augmentation of the Cellerer's revenues.<sup>1</sup>

IN the year 1329, he obtained for the Prior and Convent a Grant from the King, to have the custody of the See on every vacancy, and to receive the profits thereof; for which they were to pay to the King and his Successors 2000*l.* by the year, or in proportion for the time it should continue vacant.<sup>2</sup>

HE died at *Somersham*, Jan. 14. 1337.<sup>3</sup> (having been afflicted with the Palsy for two years before his death,) and was buried behind the Altar of the Choir, in the middle of that part of the Presbytery which he had built: a magnificent Tomb was erected over him, with his Effigies in Alabaster; it was adorned with a sumptuous Branch, for seven Tapers, on the top of it; and in the several compartments on the sides and east-end, adorned with sculpture, representing the History of the Creation and Fall of Man; and many other decorations: the Tomb still remains, but much defaced, and divested of the above-mentioned ornaments: <sup>4</sup> instead whereof is placed on the top of it a kind of wooden ornament, and a modern Inscription,<sup>5</sup> (wrote about the time of *Q. Elizabeth*, or *K. James I.*) with a wrong date of his death, and mentioning part of his munificence to the Church; but falsely ascribing to him the building of the Dome and Lantern; which doubtless were built by the Prior and Convent; as appears by almost all other accounts, and confirmed by several original yearly Accounts of the Sacrist, still remaining in the Archives of the Church.<sup>6</sup>

## XVII. SIMON DE MONTACUTE. 1337.

SOON after the vacancy of the See, the Prior and Convent applied as usual to the King, for his licence to proceed to a new election: but the King and his Ministers made so many difficulties and delays; that it was near two months before they obtained it. In the mean time, the King, (as afterwards appeared,) was secretly negotiating with the Pope, and had wrote to him in favour of the Bishop of *Worcester*; desiring that he might be translated to *Ely*. However, the Convent proceeding to election, unanimously made choice of their Prior *John de Crauden*, a Man of great worth, piety and generosity; in all respects qualified for the Episcopal Office.<sup>7</sup>

But

<sup>1</sup> MS Wren.—Rot. Comput. Cellerarii Elien.—Et Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 647. <sup>2</sup> MS Registr. Ep'i R. fol. 242. <sup>3</sup> Anno scilicet 1<sup>mo</sup> die Jan. incipiente. <sup>4</sup>—Obiit 18 Kal. Febr. nocte precedente 'Festum Sti Mauri Abbatis.' Ita MSS Cotton. Titus. A. 1.—Et Harleian. 258. et 3721.—Et Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 648. <sup>5</sup> Plate XVIII. <sup>6</sup> See Appendix. <sup>7</sup> Bishop Hotham was a considerable Benefactor to the Abby of Welbeck in Nottinghamshire; on which he settled the whole Manor of Cukenay, or Cockeney; and having purchased the Patronage thereof, he annexed it to the See of Ely: whence his Successors were afterwards accounted Founders or Patrons of it. Monast. Angl. vol. ii. p. 597, &c. <sup>7</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 649.

But all their proceedings were annulled at once, by the Bull of Pope *Benedict* XII. for Translating SIMON DE MONTACUTE Bishop of *Worcester* to the See of *Ely*.<sup>1</sup> In the year 1318, King *Edward* II, speaks of him as his Kinsman, [*Consanguineus Noster*,] in a letter to the Pope, requesting a Dispensation for his holding any Ecclesiastical Benefice, either with or without Cure, to assist him, (being a younger Son, and under 15 years of age,) in the prosecution of his studies at *Oxford*.<sup>2</sup> He had the like recommendation to the Pope from King *Edward* III, in 1328.<sup>3</sup> The next year he obtained a Prebend in the Church of *Lincoln*, and was afterwards Archdeacon of *Wells*, which he resigned about 1332, on being made Archdeacon of *Canterbury*. In 1333, he was by Papal Provision, at the request of the King, made Bishop of *Worcester*, and consecrated May 8. 1334. and by the same authority, 1337, Translated to the See of *Ely*:<sup>4</sup> on which account we find a Letter of Thanks from the King to the Pope.<sup>5</sup>

THIS Bishop by his Letters Patent, dated Dec. 14. 1337. granted an annual Pension of 10 Marks to *John Thorp* a Clerk, nominated by the King, to be continued till he was provided for by the Bishop, with some ecclesiastical Benefice.<sup>6</sup>

Nov. 9. 1337. by his Official and Commissary *John Clipston*, he confirmed *Richard de Harlyng*, J. C. P. elected Chancellor of the University of *Cambridge*: and in 1340, a dispute having risen in the University, about the election of a Chancellor; the Bishop of *Ely* appointed two Commissaries, Doctors of Civil Law, to keep the Jurisdiction of the University during the vacancy.<sup>7</sup>

OUR Bishop is said to have enlarged the privileges of the University:<sup>8</sup> but in what respect is not mentioned: however, he prescribed a new body of Statutes for his Scholars of *Peter-House*, dated at *Ely*, April 9. 1344, whereby they were afterwards governed; and gave the Master and Scholars the power and privilege of nominating and presenting their own Members; (who had all of them before been collated by the Bishops of *Ely*;) reserving to himself and successors only the power of admitting and confirming their Election:<sup>9</sup> he also gave them the Patronage of *Hinton* Rectory, and a small Manor in *Hadenham*, called *Chewel*.<sup>10</sup>

DURING his Episcopate, there were several magnificent works carrying on, relating to the Cath. Church, namely, St. *Mary's* Chapel, which had been begun in 1321, but not finished till 1349. The Dome and Lantern, begun in 1322, and compleated in 1343; and the new Choir, which was begun to be erected in 1338.—He was a Prelate

<sup>1</sup> Registrum Montacute. fol. 1.    <sup>2</sup> Rymer. Fœd. vol. iii. pag. 743.    <sup>3</sup> Ibid. vol. iv. pag. 379.  
<sup>4</sup> This Bull is dated at Avinion 2 Id. Mar. Regist. Montacute, fol. 1.—Rymer. Fœd. vol. iv. pag. 733.    <sup>5</sup> Rymer. Fœd. vol. iv. p. 744.    <sup>6</sup> Registr. Montacute fol. 4.—How long this custom of the King's nominating a Clerk to be provided for by every new Bishop, with some ecclesiastical Benefice, and allowing him a pension in the mean time, had been in use; does not appear: this Bishop's Register being the oldest now remaining: but I find it was constantly observed to the reign of Henr. 6. or later.    <sup>7</sup> Ibid. fol. 2. 9.—It appears by the Registers, that all the Chancellors of the University of Cambridge, were Confirmed by the Bishops of Ely, before they entered on their Office; till about the year 1400; and in 1433, the University was wholly exempted from their Jurisdiction, by Papal authority.    <sup>8</sup> Joh. Caii Hist. Academ. Cantab. lib. i. p. 112.    <sup>9</sup> Statuta Collegii.  
<sup>10</sup> Matth. Parker Hist. Acad. Cantab. p. 9.



Prelate liberal in his contribution to these works; but especially to the Chapel of *St. Mary*, on which he expended very large sums of money, and intended to have finished it; but did not live to see that design compleated. Having sat Bishop here eight years and some weeks over, he died *June 20. 1345.*<sup>1</sup> and was buried before the Altar in *St. Mary's Chapel*, towards the erecting of which, he was the most considerable Benefactor, as before observed.

### XVIII. THOMAS L'ISLE. 1345.

THE Convent of *Ely* having obtained Licence to elect a Bishop, proceeded by way of Compromise, appointing seven of their Body to elect; who unanimously agreed upon their Prior *Alan de Walsingham.*<sup>2</sup> But the Pope, *Clement VI*, by Provision superseded their Election in favour of THOMAS L'ISLE, a Dominican or Preaching Frier, and Prior of the House of that Order at *Winchester*; who having been sent by the King to the Pope in the year 1340,<sup>3</sup> happened to be at *Avignon* with the Pope, at the time of this vacancy; and he was there Consecrated Bishop of *Ely* accordingly. After his return to *England*, which was in the same year 1345, he was obliged to make a formal renunciation in writing of all words contained in the Pope's Bull of Provision,<sup>4</sup> that were prejudicial to the King and the rights of his Crown; and to declare his holding the Temporalities of his See, proceeded of the King's grace and favour, and not by any authority from the Pope: on which, the King by Letters to the Prior and Convent of *Ely*, ordered them to give him possession of the Temporalities.<sup>5</sup>

FOR a time this Bishop carried himself with great haughtiness, and appeared with great magnificence of retinue; the expenses of which he soon found were too great for his revenues to support, and therefore retrenched them, by lessening the number of his retainers. He was also very strict and severe upon those who had in any wise infringed his rights and prerogatives; against whom he very freely issued out sentence of excommunication: by which, and such like behaviour, he rendered himself extremely unpopular.

IN 1346, or 1347, the King demanded of him a Loan of Wool, to be paid in Gold or Silver; from which the Bishop excused himself, by the plea of Poverty and Inability.<sup>6</sup> In the year 1348, he went abroad into foreign parts, and was at *Rome* at the

<sup>1</sup> *Anglia Sacra* vol. i. p. 652. — et Godwinus de Præful. *Angl.* p. 261. Necnon MSS nonnulli annum 1344 habent. Extat autem Registrum ejus, unde constat Dñm Simonem Epum varia negotia peregrisse infra annum 1345. Maii die 21. 1345. Ordines celebrat in Ecclesia parochiali de Linton. — Maii die 25. 1345. apud Balsam admisit Scholarem Sti Petri Cant. ad Nominationem et præsentationem Custodis et Scholarium: et eodem die mandat eidem pro inductione, &c. Vide Registrum ejus, fol. 35, et 116. <sup>2</sup> *Angl. Sacr.* vol. i. pag. 653. <sup>3</sup> *Rymer Fœd.* vol. v. pag. 176. <sup>4</sup> Breve regium pro liberatione Temporalium. Registrum L' Isle, fol. 67. — <sup>5</sup> Inolevit consuetudo (circa A. D. 1303.) quæ ad Reformatam usque Ecclesiam Anglicanam obtinuit; ut Episcopi in accipiendis a Rege Temporalibus renunciarent in Scriptis omne jus, quod prætextu Provisionis Papalis in Temporalia Episcopatum habere possent, seque ea soli Regis liberalitati accepta referre protestarentur. *Angl. Sacr.* v. i. p. 531. <sup>6</sup> 10 Sept. 19<sup>o</sup> Edw. 3. Registr. L' Isle. fol. 67. <sup>6</sup> *Ibid.* fol. 72, 75.

the time of the great Plague that raged in *England* and in most parts of *Europe*, in the the year 1349,<sup>1</sup> and returned in 1350.

THE unhappy difference this Bishop had with the Lady *Blanch Wake*, soon after his coming to the See, drew upon him a long train of misfortunes, which ended only with his life. This Lady who was related in blood to the King, being a Daughter of *Henry Earl of Lancaster*, had some Estates in *Huntingtonshire* adjoining to the Bishop's Manors there : which gave occasion to some misunderstanding between them, on account of their limits and boundaries. During this contest, it happened that one of her Farm-houses at *Coln* was set on fire in the night, by some malicious persons, and burnt down : and the matter being judicially enquired into, the Bishop was accused of aiding, abetting, and consenting to the fact ; and a verdict found against him, with damages to the amount of 900*l.* which the Bishop was obliged to pay ; whereupon he moved for a Writ of Attaint against the Jurors, which was granted ; and the King issued a Commission for trying it at *Huntington*. But when the Judges sat, by some contrivance or other, (said to be by procurement of Lady *Wake*,) the Records and Proceedings of the Court, on which the Indictment was grounded, were missing, and could not be found : so the Court broke up without doing any thing in it. Thus disappointed of his remedy, the Bishop resolved to wait upon the King in person, and complain of the injustice done him. It happened that the King was taking the diversion of Hawking in the field ; when the Bishop without much ceremony, made his complaint. The King patiently heard what he had to say ; after which he told him, that the cause between him and Lady *Wake*, appeared to him in a very odious light, and was of very bad example to his people ; for which reason he intended to take the matter into his own hands, and if he could, restore peace between them. The Bishop replied, that he only desired the benefit of the Law and Justice ; — And who hinders you, said the King, from having Law and justice ? — In his reply, the Bishop was so indiscreet and unguarded as to say, he could not have Justice done him ; and made use of some expressions reflecting on the King, as partial to the Lady's cause : at which the King was justly offended ; and soon after in full Parliament, complained of the Bishop's irreverent behaviour to him ; which the Bishop then present endeavoured to palliate and excuse. But the King calling to witness Sir *Richard de la Vache* a Knight who was by, when the words were spoken, he confirmed all the King had said. Whereupon the Archbishop of *Canterbury* and the other Prelates, believing the Bishop's misbehaviour proceeded from heat and indiscretion, rather than avowed design, fell on their knees, for pardon of the Bishop's offence : however, the Bishop himself not joining with them, but seeming obstinately to stand on his defence, the King turned away, and would see him no more.

NOT long after this rebuke, the Bishop was involved in another and greater misfortune ; for the old quarrel still subsisting, *Ralph a Norman*, one of his Domesticks,

in

<sup>1</sup> Register L'Isle. fol. 17, 21. — Hinc obiter notandum duxi, Numerum Clericorum Parochialium in tota Diocesi Elien. hoc tempore fuisse 145, aut circiter ; ex hoc autem numero, constat ex Registro, 92 Institutos fuisse infra annum 1349, (anno incipiente 25 die Mar.) peste per universam fere Angliam et alias gentes immaniter sæviente.



in a rencounter with one of Lady *Wake's* Servants, killed him, and made his escape into *Normandy*. The story is told more at large in Bishop *Godwin*,<sup>1</sup> and other Historians: it may be sufficient here to say, that the murder was prosecuted, and the Bishop being very unpopular, was insulted by a mob in *Huntingtonshire* on that account, and by the Coroner's Inquest, brought in as accessory to the Murder: on which he was summoned to appear at the King's Bench Bar; and made his appearance accordingly: when the charge against him was read, he pleaded not Guilty, and offered to put himself on Tryal by his Peers. But the Parliament not sitting, and the Bishop being under disgrace at Court, the motion was over-ruled, and a Jury of Commoners empannelled to try him; who acquitted him of the Murder, but brought him in guilty of harbouring and concealing the Murderer after the fact: in consequence of which, Writs were issued out to the Sheriffs of all Shires where he had effects, to seize them to the King's use, and the Temporalities of the See were immediately taken into the King's hands: and the Bishop now despairing of ever recovering the King's favour; and moreover, afraid of being imprisoned on an outlawry, fled beyond Sea,<sup>2</sup> and went to *Avignon*, where the Pope then resided. The Pope and his Consistory, at the Bishop's request, took cognizance of the cause: cited many persons to appear at *Avignon*; and upon their default issued out sentences of Excommunication against them; ordering the bodies of those who had died in the interim to be dug up, and taken out of consecrated ground. The King's Judges, on the other hand, proceeded with great severity against such as had been convicted of publishing those orders and sentences of the Pope.

A Negotiation was at length set on foot, for terminating these disputes between the King and the Pope;<sup>3</sup> but in the mean time the Bishop died at *Avignon* 23 June 1361, and was there buried in a Nunnery of the Order of St. *Dominick*.

UPON his death, the Pope by Provision declared *Reginald Brian* Bishop of *Worcester* Bishop of *Ely*: but he dying of the Pestilence then raging in *England*, 10 Dec. 1361, before his Translation was compleated; the Convent of *Ely*, by Licence of the King, proceeded to Elect *John Beckingham*, Keeper of the Privy Seal, and Dean of *Lichfield*. But the Pope, paying no regard to their Election, by another Provision appointed

## XIX. SIMON LANGHAM, 1362.

ABBOT of *Westminster* and Treasurer of *England*, (who had been lately elected to the See of *London*, but had not accepted it,) to be Bishop of *Ely*; and he was accordingly Consecrated Mar. 20, 1362.<sup>4</sup> During the time he was Bishop here, he consecrated the Parochial Church of St. *Cress*,<sup>5</sup> which the Convent had lately built,

ad-

<sup>1</sup> De Præfatis Angl. pag. 263. Angl. Sacra, vol. i. pag. 647. <sup>2</sup> His holding an Ordination in his Cath. Ch. at *Ely*, Sept. 24. 1356. is the latest act of his, that is mentioned in his Register: and he is said to have set off for foreign parts, Nov. 19. following. Angl. Sacra, vol. i. p. 660. <sup>3</sup> Rymer I. ed. vol. vi. p. 328. <sup>4</sup> Anno scilicet incipiente 1 Jan. <sup>5</sup> This Parochial Church was soon after Dedicated to the H. Trinity, the exact time I do not find; but it occurs under the Title of Ecclesia S. Trinitatis de *Ely*, in the Sacrist's Accounts, 13. Ric. II. A.D. 1389.

adjoining to the North-side of the Nave of the Cathedral Church. He is reckoned among the Benefactors of *St. Peter's College in Cambridge*, to the Master and Scholars whereof he Appropriated the Church of *Hinton near Cambridge*.<sup>1</sup> He was also appointed Lord Chancellor of *England* by the King, 19 Feb. 1363;<sup>2</sup> and in 1366, by Papal Provision translated to the See of *Canterbury*; which See he resigned Nov. 17, 1368, being created a Cardinal; and went to *Avignon*, where he died 1376; and was first buried there in the Church of the Carthusians, of whose House he had been the Founder: and after three years his Body was taken up, and according to his own appointment, brought over to *England*, and interred in the Chapel of *St. Benedict* in the Abby Church at *Westminster*, under an handsome Monument, which is still to be seen, with his Effigies in Alabaster.

## XX. JOHN BARNET, 1366.

ARCHDEACON of *London* and Canon-Residentary of *St. Paul's*, was consecrated Bishop of *Worcester* 1362; and the next year made Treasurer of *England*, and translated to *Bath and Wells*, and by Papal Provision<sup>3</sup> translated to *Ely*, 1366. He was very old and infirm when he came to this See; however, he continued Bishop here above six years; having in the mean time resigned the Office of Treasurer, about the middle of the year 1370.

THE Bishops of *Ely* had at this time belonging to the See, no less than ten different Manor-houses, Castles, or Palaces of Residence,<sup>4</sup> which were sufficiently large and commodious for the reception of themselves and their Family; to which they usually resorted by turns, and lived with great hospitality, according to the custom of those times, chiefly on the produce of their Demesnes; appendant to which, there was always a certain Stock, called *Implementa Episcopatus*, consisting of Cattle necessary for cultivation of those lands. During the last five years of Bishop *L'Isle's* life; whilst he was abroad at *Avignon*, and the Temporalities in the King's hands; by some

<sup>1</sup> This Appropriation, however, did not take effect; for upon the next vacancy his Successor Bishop Barnet collated a Rector: but afterwards Bp Fordham effected the Appropriation in the year 1395. <sup>2</sup> Anno incipiente scilicet, 1 Jan. Rymer. Fœd. vol. vi. p. 403. <sup>3</sup> Formerly the Popes made use of their Plenitude of power in Provisions, only occasionally: by the connivance of our Kings, and their interposition in favour of those they were desirous of promoting in the Church; these Provisions became at length more frequent: for whenever the Chapters did not Elect such as were recommended by the Crown; immediately application was made to the Pope, to promote them by way of Provision: and this they did, till the Pope's power was fully established by custom. It is remarkable, that in the Bull of Provision whereby this Bishop is translated to *Ely* (See Rymer. Fœd. vol. 6. p. 539.) the Pope openly and without disguise professes, that he had Decreed thenceforth to reserve all the Archbishopricks and Bishopricks in *England* vacant by Translations, to his own disposal: which was in effect to say, that he had reserved them all absolutely to himself; for by the Translation of any one to a superior Bishoprick, the rest would follow in course. <sup>4</sup> These were, the Palace of *Ely* near the Cathedral; *Ely-House Holbourn*, their Town-House; Bishop's *Hatfield*, (now the Seat of the Earls of *Salisbury*;) and *Hadham*, both in *Hertfordshire*; *Somersham* in *Huntingtonshire*; *Balsam* and *Ditton*, in *Cambridgeshire*; *Downham Palace*, *Wisbech Castle*, and *Doddington*, these three in the Isle of *Ely*.



some mismanagement or other of the King's Officers, this Stock was embezzled and made away with. Bishop *Langham* complained of it to the King, and applied to him for restitution; and the King was pleased to grant his request: however, he being soon after translated to *Canterbury*; it was deferred to this Bishop's time; and in the year 1368, the King issued an Order out of his Treasury for payment of 706 *l.* 13 *s.* 4 *d.* to be applied for stocking the Bishop's Demefnes, *viz.* for 471 Oxen, at 20 *s.* per head; for 292 Stotts,<sup>1</sup> at 13 *s.* 4 *d.* and for 41 Draught-horses at 20 *s.* and this he ordained to be the standing stock of the See; and that every Bishop, immediately before his entering into the Church to be inthroned, should at the West Door thereof, take a solemn Oath, to leave the said Stock entire, or the full value thereof, to his Successor.<sup>2</sup>

HE died at *Hatfield*, 7 June, 1373,<sup>3</sup> and his Body was brought to *Ely*, and buried near the High Altar, between two pillars on the South-side of the Presbytery; which he had beautified by three Windows<sup>4</sup> on the South-side, and two on the North. A handsome Monument of Grey Marble, with his Effigies engraved on Brass, (now torn off,) was there erected to his Memory.<sup>5</sup>

THE Convent of *Ely* proceeding to Election, as usual; *Henry de Wakefield*, Treasurer of the King's Household, was by them duly elected: but the Pope annulled all their proceedings, and by his Provision conferred the Bishoprick upon

## XXI. THOMAS DE ARUNDEL, 1374.

SECOND Son of *Richard* Earl of *Arundel*, and Archdeacon of *Taunton*, who was then only twenty-two years of age, and a Subdeacon. He was consecrated *April* 9. 1374. at *Oxford* in *Kent* by the Archbishop of *Canterbury*; but was not installed at *Ely*, till two years after.

THE Chancellors of the University of *Cambridge*, at this time, held their Office only for two years. When a new Chancellor was elected, he, being attended by one of the Proctors, and one of the Beadles of the University, always used to wait on the Bishop of *Ely*, wherever he happened to be at that time, whether in, or out of his Diocese, in order to obtain his Confirmation, before he entered on his Office. The method of proceeding on this occasion was in a summary way, and without the formality of writing: the Proctor only verbally presenting the Elect to the Bishop, and praying him to Confirm him according to the customary manner: and the Elect having taken the Oath of Canonical Obedience,<sup>6</sup> and also another Oath to this effect, *viz.* That he will not attempt to obtain, or consent to any statute made, or to be

<sup>1</sup> *Stotti*,—according to *Spelman*, (*Gloss. ad vocem.*) are a kind of Horses; but how to distinguish from *Equi caretarii* Draught-horses here mentioned, I leave to others to determine. <sup>2</sup> MS. Registr. Ep'i. A. fol. 36. <sup>3</sup> MS Harleian. 3721. Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 664. <sup>4</sup> The Windows here mentioned, were in that part of the Presbytery of Bishop Northwold's building; the old ones of which were taken down, in order to make them more conformable to those in Bishop Hotham's part, which were more ornamented with Tracery in the Stone-work, and with painted Glafs. <sup>5</sup> Plate XV. <sup>6</sup> Sometimes the Oaths were administered to the Chancellors, immediately after their Admission and Confirmation.



be made by the University, that may be in any wise prejudicial to the rights of the Bishop of *Ely*, his Successors, or his Church of *Ely*; <sup>1</sup> was admitted to his Office, and Confirmed by the Bishop, and received the Benediction: and after his return to the University, a Congregation being called, one of the Proctors administered to him the Oath for the due and faithful discharge of his Office: on which, the Proctor immediately delivered to him the Seal of the Chancellor, and the Key of the common Chest. <sup>2</sup> — It happened that the Bishop soon after his Consecration, being then at *Micham* in *Surry*; May 7, 1374; *Robert Thurkilby* one of the Proctors of the University, attended with one of the Beadles, came before him, and there presented *John Donwiche* Doctor of Decrees, lately elected Chancellor of the University, for his Confirmation, as usual: and the Bishop accordingly admitted and confirmed him; but without first requiring of him the Oaths, that had usually been administered on the like occasions. Not long after, the Bishop by inspecting the Registers of his Predecessors, finding his error and omission; appointed his Official *Nicholas Roos*, LL.D. his special Commissary, to require and demand the usual Oaths; who accordingly cited the Chancellor to appear before him, in *All Saints Church* in *Cambridge*, for that purpose, on the Monday after the Feast of *St. Michael* then next coming: and the Chancellor refusing to obey the Summons, a warm and spirited contest was carried on between them: at length the Cause was removed into the Archbishop's Court of Arches; where Sentence was given Dec. 7, the same year, in favour of the Bishop's claim, and the rights of his See of *Ely*. <sup>3</sup>

April 20, 1376, the Bishop was enthroned <sup>4</sup> at *Ely*, with the usual solemnities; and in the Summer proceeded to a Visitation of the Convent.

A dispute having risen between the Bishop and *Edward Burnell* Archdeacon of *Ely*, about Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, and carried on in the Court of *Canterbury*, it was terminated in 1379; and on June 28, the Archdeacon in person came before the Bishop at his Manor at *Downham*, and made his submission, with profession of Canonical Obedience. <sup>5</sup>

IN the year 1383, on complaint made to the King, of the ill government of *King's Hall* <sup>6</sup> in *Cambridge*, under the then Master; by whose negligence the Buildings were suffered to run to ruin and decay; some of the estates and possessions wasted and destroyed; the Books, Plate, and other Goods belonging to the College dissipated

<sup>1</sup> Registr. Montacute et L'Isle, passim. <sup>2</sup> MS Registr. Ep'i. A. fol. 105. <sup>3</sup> Registrum Arundel. fol. 75, 56, &c. The whole Process, occurs in the Register here cited; by which it appears, that Bishop Barnet's omitting the usual Oaths taken by the Chancellors on their Admission and Confirmation all his time, gave occasion to this Contest. However, Bishop Arundel and some of his immediate Successors did not constantly insist on the Chancellors taking the Oaths; but sometimes admitted and confirmed them without it: nevertheless, saving to themselves and Successors the right of exacting it, whenever they should think fit so to do. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. fol. 14. <sup>5</sup> Ibid. fol. 22, 30. <sup>6</sup> This College or Hall was founded and endowed by K. Edward III. for 32 Scholars, under the Government of a Master, Warden, or Custos, to the honour of God, the Virgin Mary, and All Saints, in which Parish it was situate: it was confirmed by Simon Montacute, Bishop of Ely, A. D. 1343. [Registr. Montacute, fol. 29.] and afterwards with all its Revenues valued at 211*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* per ann. included in Trinity College by K. Henry VIII. A. D. 1546.



pated and lost ; and the number of the Scholars instituted by the Royal Founder diminished : the King by his Letters Patent, dated at *Westminster*, *July* 14, anno 7<sup>o</sup>. appointed the Bishop Visitor thereof ; in the King's name, and by his authority, to call before him the Master and Scholars, and others that he should think proper, and enquire into, and to correct and reform all such abuses and irregularities as he should find committed. <sup>1</sup>

THE Chancellorship of the University being vacant, in 1384, the Bishop by his Letters dated at *Downham*, *July* 28, constituted *William de Gotham* and *John de Burgh*, Doctors in Divinity, his Commissioners to supply and execute that Office, during the vacancy : <sup>2</sup> and *John de Burgh* one of the said Commissioners, being elected to that Office by the University, was admitted and confirmed Chancellor by the Bishop, in his Chapel in *Holbourn*, *London*, *Nov.* 24. and there took the Oaths usual on that occasion. <sup>3</sup>

*Oct.* 24, 1386, *Michael de la Pole* Earl of *Suffolk*, having been removed from the office of Lord Chancellor of *England*, on the pressing instance of the Lords and Commons in Parliament, though with great reluctance on the King's part ; the Bishop of *Ely* was by the like petition appointed Chancellor in his stead. <sup>4</sup>

IN 1388, he was by Papal Provision translated to the See of *York*, vacant by the removal of *Alexander Newyll*, and the next year resigned the Seal of Chancellor. But in 1391, he was again made Chancellor ; and in 1396, was translated to the See of *Canterbury* ; and died *Feb.* 19, 1414. <sup>5</sup> He was a Prelate of great magnificence and liberality, and whilst he held the See of *Ely*, almost rebuilt the Bishop's Palace in *Holbourn*.

## XXII. JOHN FORDHAM, 1388.

WHO had been Dean of *Wells*, Prebendary of *Lincoln*, *York*, and *Chichester*, and Keeper of the King's Privy Seal ; was by Papal Provision promoted to the See of *Durham* in 1381, and Consecrated *Jan.* 5, following. He was much in favour with King *Richard* II, and by him made Lord Treasurer, *Jan.* 17, 1386, but removed from that Office, at the instance of the Parliament, in *October* following. On the vacancy of the See of *Ely*, by Bp. *Arundel*'s Translation to *York*, he was by Pope *Urban* VI, Translated to *Ely* : this appointment was considered as a kind of Degradation ; which however, he was forced to accept ; having received the Pope's Bull for that purpose, which was delivered to him *Sept.* 27, 1388, at *Huntingdon*, <sup>6</sup> in his way to *Cambridge* ; whither he was going to attend the Parliament there sitting at that time : the same day he made his profession of Obedience to the See of *Rome*, in the Choir or Chancel of the Conventual Church of *Barnwell*, before ABp *Courtney*, who was commissioned to receive it : and at the same time and place, the King

per-  
<sup>1</sup> Regist. Arundel. fol. 106. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. fol. 49. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. fol. 51. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. fol. 111. Knyghton inter X Scriptores. col. 2680, &c. <sup>5</sup> Anno scil. 1 Jan. incipiente. <sup>6</sup> Registr. Fordham, fol. 1.

personally present, gave him possession of the Temporalities of the See : <sup>1</sup> but he was not Inthroned at *Ely* till Oct. 24, 1389. <sup>2</sup>

DURING his Episcopate, the University of *Cambridge* is said, to have obtained of Pope *Boniface IX.* a Bull of Exemption, from the necessity of having their Chancellor-elect, confirmed by the Bishop of *Ely*. <sup>3</sup>

THE disputes which had long time subsisted between the Bishops of *Ely* and their Archdeacons, concerning the exercise of Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, within the whole Diocese of *Ely*; were by this Bishop and *John Welborn*, LL.D. his Archdeacon, referred to the sole arbitration of Archbishop *Arundel*; and by him all matters relating thereto were terminated in 1402; <sup>4</sup> when the Church of *Haddenham* was appropriated to the Archdeaconry; in compensation for some part of the Jurisdiction, which the Archdeacons before had exercised; but was now secured to the Bishops. <sup>5</sup>

THERE was also another Controversy, between the Bishop and the Prior and Convent, which begun in 1400, and was attended with great trouble and expense on both sides; and is said to have cost the Bishop three thousand Marks, and the Convent about two thousand : <sup>6</sup> it was in relation to Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, claimed by the Prior and Convent in certain districts, and their right to all Fines, Amercements, Forfeitures, Goods and Chattels of Felons and Fugitives, and other Privileges in all their Manors within the *Isle of Ely*; and several other claims: all which matters were, by the interposition of King *Henry V.* referred to Arbitrators nominated by him, and accepted by both Parties; namely, *Henry Ware* Keeper of the King's Privy Seal, *William Hankford*, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and *Roger Norton*, another of the King's Justices; who, after hearing and examining the claims and evidences of both Parties, gave their final Award under their Seals, dated on the Feast of St. *Nicolas*, [Dec. 6,] 1417. <sup>7</sup>

HAVING continued Bishop here above 37 years, he died at *Downham*, in a very advanced age, Nov. 19, 1425, <sup>8</sup> and was interred in St. *Mary's* Chapel, not far from Bishop *Montacute*.

### XXIII. PHILIP MORGAN. 1426.

THE Convent of *Ely* having obtained Licence to proceed to Election; the King and his Ministers recommended to them *William Alnewick*, LL.D. the King's Confessor, and Keeper of his Privy Seal, for their Bishop: the Monks, however,

<sup>1</sup> Registr. Fordham, fol. 1. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. fol. 9. <sup>3</sup> See Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 666. Note *m*. Where this Bishop's Register is cited for it; though I do not there find any mention made of this Bull: however, it appears thence, that this Bishop continued to confirm the Chancellors till 1400. in which year May 28. Richard Billingsford, S.T.P. was confirmed by him in the customary form, and took the usual Oaths of Canonical Obedience; and this is the last Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, I meet with, Confirmed by any Bishop of Ely.—Vid. Joh. Caii Hist. Academ. Cantabr. lib. ii. p. 130, &c. <sup>4</sup> The claims of each Party, with the whole proceeding thereupon, and the Archbishop's final award; may be met with, either in Bishop Fordham's Register, fol. 220. or in the Bishop of Ely's Register, A. pag. 53, 54, &c. <sup>5</sup> Rymer. Fœd. v. viii. pag. 238. <sup>6</sup> MS Harleian. N°. 3721. <sup>7</sup> MS Liber Niger 8°. in Officio Registrarii apud Cantabr.—MS Cotton. C. xi. fol. 329. <sup>8</sup> 13 Kal. Dec. 1425. MSS Harleian 3721. et 7032. pag. 372.



ever, made choice of their own Prior *Peter de Ely*: but before he was confirmed, it appeared that Pope *Martin V*, by his Bull, dated *Feb. 27, 1425*,<sup>1</sup> had Translated *PHILIP MORGAN*, LL.D. Bishop of *Worcester*, to the See of *Ely*: the King consented to it, and accordingly gave him possession of the Temporalities, *April 22, 1426*. This Bishop was an eminent Civilian, and had formerly been Chaplain to King *Henry V*, by whom he was frequently employed in Embassies, into *Burgundy, France, Arragon*, and other parts abroad.<sup>2</sup> *April 8, 1418*, he was made the King's Chancellor of *Normandy*; <sup>3</sup> the year following promoted to the See of *Worcester*:<sup>4</sup> and thence Translated to *Ely*, as before observed.

A. D. 1430,<sup>5</sup> happened that memorable controversy between this Bishop and the University of *Cambridge*, (*John Holbrooke* being at that time their Chancellor,) concerning Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction; which the University claimed as vested solely in themselves, by virtue of two Papal Bulls, of *Honorius I*, dated A. D. 624, and of *Sergius I*, dated 689; copies of which, though the Originals were not to be found, they pretended to be in their possession. The Bishop, on the other hand, insisted on his Visitatorial power, both as their Diocesan, and as confirmed by use and prescription. The University hereupon made their Appeal to *Martin V* then Pope; who not being perfectly acquainted with the cause, appointed the Prior of *Barnwell* and *John Deping* Canon of *Lincoln*, or either of them, his Delegates to terminate the dispute. The cause was heard by the Prior, (the other not attending,) and determined in favour of the University: and that sentence afterwards confirmed by Pope *Eugenius IV*, in the year 1433; by which the University was declared to be exempt both from Archiepiscopal and Episcopal Jurisdiction.<sup>6</sup>

HAVING held this See 9 years, 26 weeks, and 4 days from the time the King gave him possession of the Temporalities; he died at *Hatfield*, *Oct. 25, 1435*,<sup>7</sup> and was buried according to his own appointment in the Conventual Church of the *Charter-House, London*; but without any Monument or Inscription remaining at this day.

#### XXIV. LEWIS DE LUXEMBURGH. 1438.

ON the Death of *Philip Morgan*, the Convent unanimously chose *Robert Fitz-Hugh*, Bishop of *London*; but he dying before his Translation; the King sent Lord *John Tiptoft* to them, earnestly recommending to their choice *Thomas Rudburn*, Bishop of *St. David's*: notwithstanding this, they fixed on *Thomas Bouchier*, Bishop of *Worcester*, Chancellor of *Oxford*, at that time resident in the University; and sent thither two of their Monks to notify their Election, and to desire his consent: who receiving them very cordially, readily assented; and immediately sent them to the King, requesting his concurrence. The King being at that time much displeased with the Monks of *Ely*, for rejecting his recommendation, refused to hearken to their desire.

<sup>1</sup> 1426 incipiente. <sup>2</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. ix. pag. 136, 141, 186, 304, 388, 410, &c. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. p. 571. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. p. 774. <sup>5</sup> Caius de Antiq. Cantabr. Acad. lib. i. p. 62. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. <sup>7</sup> Extat Certificatio facta Regi, de morte Dñi Philippi Morgan, per Priorem et Conventum Elen. Data 26 die Oct. A. D. 1435. Regist. Ep'i B. fol. 46.

desire. The Bishop Elect however applying to Pope *Eugenius IV*, he, as it is said, confirmed the Election, and sent his Bulls to the Elect; who nevertheless did not dare to make use of them, for fear of falling under a *Præmunire*.

ON this dispute, it is reasonable to suppose, the King and his Ministry took occasion to gratify one of his numerous Adherents of the *French* Nation, who had lost their all in that Kingdom, and followed his fortunes into this. Among these, none deserved particular marks of his Favour more than LEWIS DE LUXEMBURGH, ABp of *Rouen*, who had long supported the *English* interest in *France*; and was besides of so great a Family, and so nearly allied to the Crown of *England*, that it is rather surprising that he was not more amply rewarded, and that so little is recorded of him by our *English* Historians.

HE was the Son of *John* Lord de *Beaurevoir* by *Margaret de Engbien*, and Brother of *Peter de Luxemburgh* Count de *St. Paul*.<sup>1</sup> The first account we find of him is in 1422; when, on the Deaths of *Charles VI*, at *Paris*, and our King *Henry V*, within a few weeks one of another, he was the chief of an Embassy from *France*, to congratulate the young King *Henry VI*, on his Accession to both Crowns: for the Succession of that Prince to the Crown of *France*, being settled by the Peace of *Troyes*; the Duke of *Bedford*, the King's Uncle, then Regent, with the Council of that Kingdom, and the City of *Paris*, sent Deputies to *London* on that occasion; at the head of which was our Prelate, then Bishop of *Terouenne*.<sup>2</sup> As he was one of those who espoused the *English* interest in *France*, he was made Chancellor of that Kingdom, as well as of *Normandy*, for King *Henry*; and being a man of great parts, as well as of distinguished extraction, he bore a great sway in the Transactions of those troublesome times. This we may collect from the following account in *Hall's Chronicle*; <sup>3</sup> where, although he is called Bishop of *Ely*, this must be understood by anticipation; for he was not Administrator of that See till eight or nine Years after. "In 1429, *John* Duke of *Bedford*, Regent of *France*, perceiving that the *English* lost ground in that Kingdom, and being willing to secure *Normandy*, he retired thither, leaving Governor of the Cytie of *Paris*, *Lewis* of *Luxenborough*, Bishop of *Tyrwyne* and *Eli*, beyng Chauncellor of *Fraunce* for the Kynge of *England*; a man of no lesse witt, then of birthe, levynge with him a conveniente nombre of *Englishmen* to defende bothe the Cytie and Territory of *Paris*, and the Yle of *Fraunce*, then beyng in the *Englishmen's* possession and governaunce." As he was so closely connected with both Courts, it is likely that he was often occasionally in *England*: accordingly in Nov. 1431, 10 *Henry VI*; when the young King went over into *France* to be crowned at *Paris*, we are told that he was accompanied thither by our Bishop his *French* Chancellor, with the prime Nobility and Clergy of both Kingdoms.<sup>4</sup> But what follows, seems to point out the true reason of his being called *Consanguineus Domini Regis*, as also of his being in great favour in *England*, and promotion to this Bishoprick: on 14 Nov. 1432,

*Ann*

<sup>1</sup> *Angl. Sacr.* vol. i. p. 668.    <sup>2</sup> This Bishoprick has been since included in those of *Boulogne*, *Ypres* and *St. Omer's*.    <sup>3</sup> *Life of Henr. vi.* fol. cx. b.    <sup>4</sup> *Id.* fol. cxvi.



*Ann of Burgundy*, Dutcheſs of *Bedford*, firſt Wife of the Regent, died : “ The Regent was perſuaded, ſays the Hiſtorian,<sup>1</sup> by the Lorde *Lewes de Luxenboroughe*, Biſhop of *Tyrwyne* and *Ely*, to marye the Lady *Jaquet*, Doughter to *Peter Earle of St. Paule*, and Neice to the ſaide Biſhop, and to Lorde *John of Luxenboroughe*, to the intent, that by thys newe affinitie, the old acquaintaunce and familiaritie, whiche he had with that Noble Familie of *Luxenboroughe*, ſhould be renewed and inforced, and with a more ſurer Knot, knit and confirmed. Whereupon he departed from *Calice* to *Tyrwyne*, where he was hyghely received of the Earle of *St. Paule* and his Bretheren, and there he married the faire and freaſhe Lady *Jaquet*, of the Age of 17 Yeares, with all Tryumphe and Nupciall Solempnitie.”

IN 1435, our Biſhop being Governor of *Paris*, that City revolted to the *French*; at which time he, with Lord *Willoughby* and others of his party, both *Engliſh* and *French*, made a retreat into the *Baſtile*;<sup>2</sup> which they defended for ten days; but were forced to ſurrender it, and had liberty to retire to what place they pleaſed. *Hall* further informs us,<sup>3</sup> that in 1436, ‘ The Duchefſe of *Bedforde*, Siſter to *Lewes Earle of St. Paule*, myndyng to marye, rather for pleaſure then for honour, without counſayll of her Frendes, maryed a luſtye Knyght called Sir *Richarde Woodvile*, to the greate diſpleaſure of her Uncle the Biſhop of *Tyrwyne* and the Earle her Brother.’ This Sir *Richard* was afterwards made Earl of *Rivers*, and by his Lady had *Elizabeth* Queen to King *Edward IV*, by whom ſhe had *Elizabeth of York*, Wife of King *Henry VII*.

IN the ſame year 1436, on 19 *October* he was elected Archbiſhop of *Rouen* in *Normandy*, and was inthroned 9 *Auguſt* following: but as the *Engliſh* affairs in *France* began to be much on the decline about this time; it is very probable that he had no full enjoyment of his See on account of the Wars; and therefore quitted *France* entirely, and came into *England* to enjoy the Patronage of K. *Henry VI*; to whom he ſteadily adhered, and had given the higheſt proofs of diſinterested loyalty. Whereupon the King, as a reward for his gratuitous and faithful ſervices, and in conſideration of the great loſſes he had ſuſtained on his account; firſt assigned him an annual penſion of 1000 Marks iſſuing out of his Exchequer here, with 1000*l. per annum* out of the Revenues of *Normandy*, for his ſupport:<sup>4</sup> and afterwards by his Letters Patent, gave him the annual profits of the See of *Ely*, which were due to the King from the Prior and Convent, viz. 2000*l.* inſtead of his former Penſions.<sup>5</sup> But the diſputes between the King and the Convent of *Ely*, in regard to a Succeſſor to Biſhop *Morgan*, being difficult to be adjusted; the King nominating one, while the Convent as ſtiſly adhered to their own choice; a medium was found out for adjusting matters, ſo as neither of the two parties ſhould be gratified. For the King on *June 22, 1437*, wrote to the Pope,<sup>6</sup> ſtrongly recommending his moſt dear Couſin *Lewis* ABp of *Rouen*, to be Adminiſtrator of the Dioceſe; ‘ *Eo quod dictus Archiepiſcopatus fuit parvi*

<sup>1</sup> Life of Henr. VI. fol. cxxi. b.    <sup>2</sup> Id. fol. cxxx. b.    <sup>3</sup> Id. fol. cxxxiii.    <sup>4</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. x. p. 671.    <sup>5</sup> Id. Ibid.    <sup>6</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 668, 669.

parvi valoris, propter guerras ibidem sæpius exortas;’ and desiring his confirmation of him in that office: he also wrote to many of the Cardinals on the same subject, with great commendations of his deserts. This was all done by the King, with the assent of his Council; and the Letters are still to be met with among those of Bishop *Beckington* of *Bath* and *Wells*, in the *Lambeth* Library.<sup>1</sup> Whereupon the Pope, assenting to the King’s request, Bulls of perpetual Administratorship were granted at the beginning of the next year; revoking at the same time the Bulls of Bp *Bourchier*’s Translation. Accordingly the Archbishop of *Rouen*’s Procurators received the Temporalities of the See of *Ely* on *April* 3, 1438,<sup>2</sup> as the *Ely* Register testifies; although the Spiritualities could not be extorted from ABp *Chicheley* before the end of that year: he having in a Synod at *London* held *Apr.* 28, 1438, remonstrated against this transaction, as being of ill consequence to the *English* Church, in the bad precedent it gave of introducing Foreigners into some of its best preferments: he therefore desired the Synod to consult and deliberate about it.<sup>3</sup> What answer was made, or whether any thing further was done in Convocation relative to this matter, does not appear: but before the end of the Year, the Spiritualities were surrendered up: and in the following Year 1439, the Parliament at the King’s request, also acknowledged<sup>4</sup> his title of Perpetual Administrator of the See of *Ely*; and confirmed to him all kinds of Privileges, Franchises, and Liberties belonging to his Church, in as full and ample manner, as he might have held it, by the Name and Title of Bishop of *Ely*.

IN 1439, on *Dec.* 18, he was created Cardinal Priest by Pope *Eugenius* IV, by the Title of *SS Quatuor Coronatorum*:<sup>5</sup> but as his advancement to the Cardinalate, without the Royal Assent, would have vacated all his other preferments, he did not accept of it, till he had informed the King thereof; who gave his consent in the fullest manner, with leave also to hold any other Ecclesiastical preferment, he should afterwards obtain, in order to support his state and dignity. These Letters Patent are dated 7 *Febr.* Anno 19 *Henr.* VI, viz. 1441.<sup>6</sup> But this was, as I apprehend, upon his second advancement by that Pope, to the superior dignity of Cardinal Bishop, by the style of Bishop of *Tusculum* in 1442;<sup>7</sup> for it is certain that he was Cardinal Priest in 1439; as there is an original Parchment in the Archives of *C.C.C.C.* relating to a dispute before his Vicar General *John Blodwell*, Doctor of Decrees, Dean of *St. Asaph*, and Rector of *Balsbam*, *August* 12 of that Year, between the Prior and Convent of *Barnwell* and that College, concerning *St. Botolph*’s Church in *Cambridge*, when the Patronage thereof was adjudged to belong to the latter:<sup>8</sup> in which his style runs thus, “Reverendissimus in Christo Pater et Dominus, Dominus *Ludovicus* miseratione divina tt. Sanctorum *Quatuor Coronatorum*, Sancte Romane Ecclesie Presbyter Cardinalis de *Lucemburgo* vulgariter nuncupatus, *Rothomagensis* Archiepiscopus, Ecclesieque et Episcopatus *Eliensis* in Spiritualibus et Temporalibus Administrator Perpetuus:”

<sup>1</sup> Tanner’s *Bibl. Brit. Art.* Beckington. <sup>2</sup> MS Cotton. *Vespasian*, A. 19. fol. 102. <sup>3</sup> Wilkins’s *Concil. Mag. Brit.* vol. iii. p. 526. <sup>4</sup> *Rym. Fœd.* vol. x. pag. 737. <sup>5</sup> *Angl. Sacr.* vol. i. pag. 668. <sup>6</sup> *Rymer’s Fœd.* vol. x. p. 841. <sup>7</sup> *Gallia Sacra*, vol. i. pag. 599. Et *Angl. Sacr.* vol. i. pag. 668. <sup>8</sup> MS Collect. Cole, vol. viii. p. 23.



tuus:" the very style he makes use of in 1443, in a Grant of the Constableship of *Wisebch-Castle*, dated at *Holborn*, *July 23*,<sup>1</sup> not two months before his death. So that it is reasonable to conclude, that though he might have been so promoted by the Pope, yet the Confirmation was never fully compleated; and probably for the afore-said reason; especially as he is called by the same Title by the Pope, in his Bull to his Successor, appointing him Bishop of *Ely*.<sup>2</sup> And this suspicion is confirmed by a Note in the new Edition of *Godwin*,<sup>3</sup> where it is said, that no memorial is to be found of this alteration of Title in the Archives of the *Vatican*.

IN 1440, his Nephew the Count *de St. Paul* revolted to the *French* Interest: this, no doubt, gave great uneasiness to the *English* Court, and to his Uncle in particular, who had experienced so many Royal favours from it.<sup>4</sup>

IN 1442, on *Dec. 9*, he under the style of Chancellor of *France*, with others, was appointed Ambassador, to treat of a Peace with the King's Uncle, *Charles* the *French* King,<sup>5</sup> his Adversary, as he is called in the Instrument.

HE governed this Diocese wholly by his Vicars-General, and was himself hardly ever resident in it, or had any intercourse with the Monks of his Church;<sup>6</sup> who probably, on their attachment to, and choice of Bishop *Bourchier*, might be looked on with indifference or jealousy, on that account.

AFTER he had presided over this Diocese five Years and rather more than six Months, he died at his Manor House at *Hatfield*, *Sept. 18*, 1443; in the Church of which place his Bowels were interred; his Heart was carried over into *Normandy*, by his Servants, and deposited in his Metropolitan Church there; after his Body had been conveyed to *Ely*, and there buried with great solemnity between two marble Pillars, on the South side of the Presbytery, just by the East end, and near the Altar of Relicks;<sup>7</sup> where there is an handsome Altar Tomb erected to his Memory, with his Effigies thereon of Stone.<sup>8</sup> After his decease, and we must presume, after his funeral obsequies were over in *England*, his Servants had Licence to depart the Kingdom, and to go over into *Normandy*; when they most likely carried his Heart with them, in order to place it in his most sumptuous Cathedral at *Rouen*. This Grant was passed 16 *Nov.* 1443,<sup>9</sup> for 37 Persons to go into *Normandy*, who are called, "Nuper Familiares et Servientes domestici Cardinalis *de Luxemburgh*," with their Effects, Horses, &c. By the number of his Servants, it appears that the Cardinal must have been at great expense in his household, and lived in a splendid and hospitable manner: as so many were attached to his fortunes abroad; and as he necessarily must have had many more who staid in *England*.

AFTER the funeral Services were all performed, his Executors gave to the Church of *Ely* a Silver gilt Cross, with the Images of our Lady and St. *John*; and to the High Altar, for its use, two Palls, a Chusuble, two Tunics with Albs, and other ornaments belonging to them: moreover, each Monk had 6s. 8d.<sup>10</sup>

XXIV.

<sup>1</sup> Registrum Epi. Elien. B. fol. 62.    <sup>2</sup> MS Collect. Cole, vol. xxv. p. 1.    <sup>3</sup> De Præful. pag. 268. Note o.    <sup>4</sup> Hall's Chron. Life of Henr. VI. fol. clxii. a.    <sup>5</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. xi. p. 13.    <sup>6</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 68.    <sup>7</sup> MS Harleian. 3721    <sup>8</sup> Plate XIX.    <sup>9</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. xi. pag. 47.    <sup>10</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 671.

## XXV. THOMAS BOURCHIER. 1444.

THE Prior and Convent having obtained the King's Licence to elect a Bishop on the Death of Cardinal *Lewis de Luxemburgh*, dated 14 Oct. 1443;<sup>1</sup> they again elected THOMAS BOURCHIER Bishop of *Worcester*: however, before his Translation could be expedited, the Pope also sent his Bull of Provision, dated at *Rome*, Jan. 1 following, for translating him to *Ely*:<sup>2</sup> and the King admitted him to the Temporalities, by virtue of that Bull, 27 Febr. 1444:<sup>3</sup> but he was not enthroned at *Ely* till 27 Mar. 1447, above three years after.

THIS Prelate was related in blood to the noblest Families in the Kingdom, being himself Great-Grand-Son to King *Edward III.* He was Son of *William Bouchier*, Earl of *Ewe* in *Normandy*, by *Ann* his Wife, Daughter of *Thomas* of *Woodstock*, Duke of *Glocester*, sixth Son of that Monarch. This Lady was eldest Sister, and one of the Coheirs of *Humfrey Plantagenet* Duke of *Buckingham*, and had been herself first married to *Edmund Stafford* Earl of *Stafford*: so that she was a Lady of one of the greatest Houses, and dignified with some of the most illustrious Titles of this Kingdom: for she was Countess of *Hereford*, *Essex*, *Ewe*, *Northampton*, *Buckingham*, and *Stafford*:<sup>4</sup> who dying 17 *Henr. VI.* 1438, she appointed him, then Bishop of *Worcester*, to be one of the Executors of her Will.<sup>5</sup>

IN 1424, May 24, he was admitted to the Prebend of *Colwich* in the Cathedral Church of *Lichfield*;<sup>6</sup> and occurs Dean of the Collegiate Church of *St. Martin le Grand* in *London* in 1428;<sup>7</sup> he is said to have been educated in *Nevil's Hostel* in *Oxford*, of which University he was Chancellor from 1433 to 1437, and was created Master of Arts in the former of those years. In 1432, he occurs Prebendary of *West Thurrock* in the Free Chapel of *Hastings*;<sup>8</sup> and on 25 July 1433, was collated to the Prebend of *Coryngbam* in the Church of *Lincoln*.<sup>9</sup> In the same year, Dec. 9, he was elected Bishop of *Worcester*; but met with some difficulties before he was established in that Bishoprick: for Pope *Eugenius IV.* had provided *Thomas Brown* Dean of *Sarum*, to that See, who was then with him at the Council of *Basil*; and by Letters to the King intreated that he would confirm his Provision: but the King wrote to *Brown*, and ordered him to give up his pretensions, if ever he expected any preferment in *England*; and let the Pope know, that he did not consent; being rather desirous that his Cousin *Thomas Bouchier*, should be provided by his Holiness to *Worcester*; and did readily consent, that the other might be promoted to *Rockester*: whereupon the Pope, not willing to disoblige the King, granted his Bulls of Provision for *Thomas Bouchier* to the See of *Worcester*, and the King gave him possession of the Temporalities, Apr. 15, 1435;<sup>10</sup> but by reason of his want of age, his Consecration was deferred till May 15 following.

BISHOP

<sup>1</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. xi. pag. 44. <sup>2</sup> Registrum Bouchier, fol. 1. <sup>3</sup> Rym. Fœd. vol. xi. pag. 52. <sup>4</sup> Brook's Catalogue of the Kings, &c. p. 160, 169, 320. <sup>5</sup> Newcourt, vol. ii. pag. 137. <sup>6</sup> Willis's Survey of Lichf. p. 430. <sup>7</sup> Newcourt, v. i. p. 428. <sup>8</sup> Ibid. <sup>9</sup> Willis's Survey of Lincoln, p. 170. <sup>10</sup> Godwin de Præsul. pag. 466, note c.



BISHOP *Baurchier's* former election from *Worcester* to the See of *Ely*, together with his reasons for declining it, has been already mentioned: but now on the death of Cardinal *Lewis de Luxemburgh* in 1443, he was translated by the same Pope *Eugenius IV.* to this See with the King's consent and approbation. Notwithstanding the Prior and Convent of *Ely* elected him a second time, it seems as if his first access thither, was not very agreeable to them; for the Monk who writes his Life,<sup>1</sup> begins with heavy complaints of the hardships the Church of *Ely* suffered during his Administration. 'He was translated, says he, from *Worcester* to *Ely* on Mar. 12, and received all the profits of the See, from St. *Andrew's* Term to *Lady-day*, to the amount of 295*l.* which we had paid to the King; yet the Bishop would not permit us to collect the money; to the great detriment and damage of the Church. He also deferred his Installation for above two years; and imprisoned the Tenants of our Franchise in *Ely*, *Brabam*, *Mepal* and elsewhere; nor would deliver them into the custody of our Bailiff by Indenture, according to the Form and Ordinance of our Award;<sup>2</sup> by the advice of *John Hay* his Steward, he amerced our Prior, and several of the Monks in office to their great grievance; and being much intreated to be kinder to them, Gifts and Presents being offered him, he only gave them back good words: we only gathered from him Flowers, instead of Fruit, as from an useless Tree. Except on the Day of his Installation, he never would celebrate Mass, or solemn service in his Cathedral. After he had sat 10 years, 23 weeks, and 5 days, he was translated to *Canterbury* by Pope *Nicholas V.* on the Feast of St. *Bartholomew*, 1454. He afterwards gave to the Church of *Ely* 100 Marks, towards the repairs of the Tower, and at his Death, in recompence for his first Election to be Bishop of this Diocese, he gave an Image of our Saviour, of very great value, with other things.'<sup>3</sup>

By this account it should seem, that his removal to the See of *Canterbury* was much to the satisfaction of the Convent of *Ely*; and by the manner of his Election to the Primacy, one would think that the Monks of that Church were under no apprehensions of any rigorous treatment from him: for we are informed,<sup>4</sup> that he was elected Archbishop of *Canterbury* on St. *George's* Day, Apr. 23, 1454, by the Monks, who were left at full liberty to choose whomsoever they pleased, the King neither by word or writing, giving the least intimation whom he would have placed in that high station, lest he should seem to bias the Liberty of the Election: which was celebrated, we are told by another authority,<sup>5</sup> with peculiar credit; for whereas others had been usually extorted by Letters from Kings and Princes, or provided by Popes, this alone stood exempt and free from such solicitations, and was performed with the greatest Liberty and Freedom. He was enthroned at *Canterbury*, 26 Jan. following, at which Solemnity were present all his Noble Relations, with a great company of the principal Nobility, Clergy, and Gentry of the Kingdom.

ON

<sup>1</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 671.    <sup>2</sup> 'Secundum formam et ordinationem *landi* nostri;' is wrong printed:—it should be read *laudi* nostri;—and refers to the Final Award, concerning the separate and distinct claims and rights of the Bishop and Convent, given by the Arbitrators appointed by K. Henr. V, A. D. 1417.—See above p. 167, under the Article of Bishop Fordham.    <sup>3</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 671, 672.    <sup>4</sup> Godwin de Præful. p. 129.    <sup>5</sup> Antiquit. Britan. Eccl. pag. 438.

ON *Mar. 7, 1455*, 33 *Hen. VI*, he was constituted Lord Chancellor of *England*; and so continued, as it should seem, till 1457, when the Seals were given to *William Waynfleet* Bishop of *Winchester*, who by mistake is called by *Dugdale*,<sup>1</sup> *William Wickham*; whereas the latter had been dead above fifty years. However, we are told by *Rymer*,<sup>2</sup> that he resigned the Chancellor's Seal 11 *Oct. 1456*, 35 *Hen. VI*; which 11 *Oct.* is put down by *Dugdale* as the day on which his Successor was confirmed in that great office, and places it in 1457. I leave it to others to settle the Chronology.

AFTER the Battle of *Towton* on Palm-Sunday, *Mar. 29, 1461*, in which *Edward IV* was victorious, our Archbishop performed the ceremony of his Coronation on *June 29* following.<sup>3</sup>

IN 1464, *Sept. 18*, he was created a Cardinal, by the Title of *S. Cyriacus in Thermis*, his Hat being delivered to him on *Dec. 9*, by the Archbishop of *Ravenna*, with great solemnity.<sup>4</sup>

IN the time of *Edward IV*, he obtained a Grant from the Crown of the Alien Priory of *Cranfield* in *Essex*, which he gave to the Prior and Convent of *Christ Church* in *Canterbury*: and they by a Deed, dated *Sept. 2, 1473*, obliged themselves and Successors to pray for the good estate of him while living, and for his Soul after his decease:<sup>5</sup> which I mention the rather, because Bishop *Godwin* remarks,<sup>6</sup> that the troubles and confusions of the times he lived in, were probably the occasion why nothing of his Bounty to the Publick is recorded of him, except some small Benefactions to the Universities. And indeed he lived in very trying times, from the Reign of *Hen. VI*, to that of *Henr. VII*, when the Kingdom was in continual confusion; and it required no small degree of prudence and sagacity, to conduct himself with safety through all those storms. Though he owed all his promotions to King *Henry VI*, yet he was made choice of, or *ex officio*, crowned his Successor *Edward IV*; on whose death in 1483, the Great and Privy Seal, with the Royal Signet, or Seal-Ring, were committed to his custody;<sup>7</sup> and in the following year he crowned his Successor and Brother King *Richard III*; and what is still more extraordinary, afterwards married King *Henry VII*, to his Queen *Elizabeth* of *York*, Daughter to King *Edward IV*, having before crowned her Husband at *Westminster*.<sup>8</sup>

AFTER having sat Archbishop of *Canterbury* 32 years, he died at his Palace of *Knoll* in *Kent*, on *March 30, 1486*,<sup>9</sup> and was buried according to his Will, on the North side of the Choir of his Metropolitan Church, near the High Altar, under a very magnificent Tomb, which is still remaining. He left to his Church of *Canterbury* an Image of the *Holy Trinity* of pure Gold, richly set with Jewels, and 27 Copes of

<sup>1</sup> *Chronica Series*, &c. pag. 66. <sup>2</sup> *Fœd.* vol. xi. pag. 383. <sup>3</sup> *Rapin*, vol. i. pag. 596. Note 11. *Godwin*, p. 129. <sup>4</sup> *Newcourt*, vol. ii. p. 460. <sup>5</sup> *De Præful. Angl.* p. 129. <sup>6</sup> *Antiq. Brit. Eccl.* p. 443. <sup>7</sup> *Ibid.* <sup>8</sup> Bishop *Godwin* remarks, (*De Præful. Angl.* p. 129.) That Cardinal Bouchier was a Bishop above 51 years; a longer time than any other he had met with among the English Bishops: but our modern times have produced a more remarkable instance of that kind, in the late most worthy Bishop of Worcester, Dr. John Hough, who was Consecrated Bishop of Oxford May 11, 1690, and died Bishop of Worcester, May 8, 1743, in the 93<sup>d</sup> year of his Age, having been a Bishop near 53 years.



of red Tissue; to the Cathedral Church of *Worcester*, an Image of the Blessed Virgin of Silver gilt; and to the Church of *Ely* 200 Marks: with Legacies to several Monasteries; and in recompence for Dilapidations he left 2000*l* to his Successor; and Legacies of about 125*l*, to each of the Universities, to be kept in Chests, for the support of the poor Scholars.<sup>1</sup>

## XXVI. WILLIAM GRAY, S.T.P. 1454.

ON the Translation of Bishop *Bourchier* to the See of *Canterbury*, WILLIAM GRAY, S.T.P. the King's Procurator<sup>2</sup> at *Rome*, was by King *Henry VI*, recommended to Pope *Nicholas V*, (by whom he was much esteemed,<sup>3</sup>) to succeed him at *Ely*; who granted him his Provisionary Bull,<sup>4</sup> dated at *Rome*, *June 21, 1454*; being at that time Notary Apostolic, and Referendary to his Holiness.<sup>5</sup> The King restored to him the Temporalties of his See *Sept. 6* following,<sup>6</sup> and the Archbishop confirmed him the same day, and consecrated him at *Mortlake* the day after, viz. on *Sept. 7, 1454*.<sup>7</sup>

THIS Bishop is said to be descended of the noble Family of the Barons *Gray of Codnor*:<sup>8</sup> but of this there is great reason to doubt: as the Arms of that noble Family are the same with those of the late Duke of *Kent*; being indeed both of the same original, and quite different from those assigned to, and certainly borne by our Bishop, who gave *Gules, a Lion rampant, and a bordure engrailed Argent*; which Arms were given by an ancient Family of the Name of *Gray* in *Suffolk*:<sup>9</sup> certain it is that our Bishop was educated in, and proved a very liberal Benefactor to *Baliol College* in *Oxford*, where he not only built good part of the Library, but also furnished the same with rare Manuscripts; on the buildings whereof the Bishop's said Arms are still remaining in several places;<sup>10</sup> as they are also in several windows of their Library, which, I suppose, was finished at the joint expense of Bishop *Gray*, and *Robert Abdy* the then Master of that College; whose names, as *Dr. Savage* observes, are never put asunder, in places where they are remembered.<sup>11</sup> Whence it is evident that our

Bishop

<sup>1</sup> This Legacy of 125*l* to *Cambridge*, was afterwards united to a former Benefaction of *Dr. Richard Billington*, Master of *Benet College*, and Chancellor of the University, who had founded it, in order that the Students of the University might borrow out of it on their particular occasions. [See *Masters's Hist. of C. C. C. C.* p. 38.] From their being united in one fund, it was afterwards called *Bourchier's and Billington's Chest*: it was in being in 1601, when 100*l* was borrowed out of it for the University; but was afterwards embezzled through the iniquity of the times. <sup>2</sup> *Rymer's Fœd.* vol. xi. p. 367. *Angl. Sacr.* vol. i. p. 672. <sup>3</sup> *Godwin de Præsul.* p. 268. <sup>4</sup> *Registrum Gray*, fol. 1. <sup>5</sup> *Angl. Sacr.* v. i. p. 672. <sup>6</sup> *Rymer*, v. xi. p. 358. <sup>7</sup> *Registr. Gray*, fol. 1. <sup>8</sup> *Bale de Script. Illustr. Brit.* v. ii. p. 64. <sup>9</sup> *MS Book of Heraldry*, penes Magistrum Cole. <sup>10</sup> *Dr. Savage's Balliofergus*, p. 68. <sup>11</sup> *Id.* p. 109. — 'On the North side of our said Library, the first Window hath the Arms of Bishop *Gray*, which are, a Lion rampant Argent, in a Field Gules, a Border engrailed Argent; and *Abdy's Arms*; the Verses in Wreaths about these are,

1. Conditor ecce novi structus hujus fuit *Abdy*:

2. Presul et huic *Edi Gray* Libros contulit *Ely*.

The fifth Window hath Bishop *Gray's* and *Abdy's Arms*, with this Motto;

1. Hos Deus adjecit: Deus his det gaudia celi;

2. *Abdy* perfecit opus hoc, *Gray* Pretul et *Ely*.' *Id.* p. 69, 70.

Bishop retained a most grateful sense of that place of his education;<sup>1</sup> from whence, being master of an ample fortune, he removed to *Ferrara*, where he studied under *Guarini* of *Verona* with as great profit to himself, as credit to his Master;<sup>2</sup> especially in the Greek and Hebrew Languages.

IN 1434, we find him Rector of *Amerham* in *Bucks*, at which time he was collated by his Kinsman and Namesake, *William Gray* Bishop of *Lincoln*, to the Prebend of *Tame*, and on *May 16*, to the Archdeaconry of *Northampton*, in that Church;<sup>3</sup> both which preferments he held till his promotion to this See.

IN 1440, he was Chancellor of the University of *Oxford*;<sup>4</sup> and on *Oct. 21, 1443*, was collated to the Prebend of *Longdon* in the Cathedral of *Lichfield*.<sup>5</sup> In 1448, he was made Archdeacon of *Northumberland*, which, I suppose, he quitted in 1450, for that of *Richmond*, to which he was admitted *March 3* of that year, being then S.T.B.; having been before, *viz. 16 Dec. 1447*, collated to the Prebend of *Barnby* in the Metropolitan Church of *York*; in which Church he was further collated to the Prebend of *Driffild*, *Aug. 20, 1452*.<sup>6</sup>

THOUGH studious, he did not neglect the knowledge of the World:<sup>7</sup> whereupon King *Henry VI*, admiring his great prudence and abilities, constituted him his Procurator at the Court of *Rome*; and Pope *Nicholas V*, on account of his recondite and excellent learning, and above all his humanity, benevolence, and candour, of his own accord appointed him, on the vacancy, to this See in 1454;<sup>8</sup> being at that time his Referendary and Notary Apostolic;<sup>9</sup> though he was not enthroned at *Ely* till *March 20, 1458*.<sup>10</sup>

ON his return, he was appointed, says *Godwin*,<sup>11</sup> Chancellor, or according to his Learned Annotator,<sup>12</sup> Treasurer of *England*. In 1467, he was appointed by King *Edward IV*, his special Commissioner, to treat of Peace and Friendship with *Alphonso* Bishop of *Ciudad*, Councillor and Ambassador from *Henry* King of *Castile* and *Leon*; which Treaty was concluded at *Westminster*, 6 July, 1467.<sup>13</sup>

ON 27 Oct. 1469, he was constituted Lord Treasurer of *England*, and so continued *March 7* of the next year:<sup>14</sup> however *Dugdale* says, that he was so appointed 27 Oct. 1470; which great Office he discharged only part of a Year, resigning the same to *John Tiptoft* Earl of *Worcester*, on or before *July 10* following.<sup>15</sup> But he means the same Year with the former; for he calls it 9<sup>th</sup> *Edw. IV*; now *October* of that Year turns out 1469.

IN 1471, 1472, 1473, he was nominated the King's first Commissioner, amongst other Bishops and Noblemen, to treat of Peace with the Commissaries of *James III*, King of *Scotland*.<sup>16</sup>

DURING the time he was Bishop, the Prior and Convent were at great charges in repairing the lower part of the Western Tower; the Arches and Pillars of which, being found insufficient for its support, were therefore obliged to be strengthened,  
by

<sup>1</sup> Godwin. p. 268.    <sup>2</sup> Leland de Script. Brit. p. 461.    <sup>3</sup> Willis's Surv. of Lincoln. p. 111, 251.  
<sup>4</sup> Le Neve. p. 442.    <sup>5</sup> Survey of Lichf. p. 451.    <sup>6</sup> Willis's Surv. of York. p. 131.    <sup>7</sup> Leland. pag. 462.  
<sup>8</sup> Godwin de Præful. p. 268.    <sup>9</sup> Rymer Fœd. v. xi. p. 358.    <sup>10</sup> Regist. Gray. fol. 120.  
<sup>11</sup> De Præful. pag. 268.    <sup>12</sup> Ibid. Note u.    <sup>13</sup> Rymer's Fœd. v. xi. pag. 583.    <sup>14</sup> Id. p. 648, 652.  
<sup>15</sup> Chronica Series. p. 68.    <sup>16</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. xi. p. 717, 733, and 776.



by wholly new-casing them with Stone, in the most substantial manner, as we now see them: in this work the Bishop was a liberal Benefactor, by giving at different times considerable sums towards it. He also ornamented the Presbytery, with two Windows on the North-side, near the place where he was afterwards interred; on the sides of which are his Arms singly engraved in Stone shields; and opposite to them, in other shields of the same sort, are the Arms of *Gray* also impaling a Saltier, possibly for *Neville*; and not improbably designed for his Parents.

In 1478,<sup>1</sup> the Bishop began to decline in his health at *London*; after *Easter*, he came to *Ely*, and from thence he removed to *Downham*;<sup>2</sup> where he was attended by the famous Physician of those times, Dr. *Walter Lempster*, formerly Fellow of *King's College* in *Cambridge*, and then settled in *London*. On *May 10* of the preceding Year, the Bishop had settled an annual Pension of ten Marks on him, to be paid out of his Manor of *Ditton*;<sup>3</sup> he having then attended the Bishop at *Dodington*: but now that his attendance was become more necessary, the Pension was increased to twenty Marks for his Life, which was granted at *Downham*, *Apr. 18*, 1478; and ratified by the Prior and Convent on 21 of the same Month:<sup>4</sup> besides which, the Doctor was to have *Bouch de Court*, which, I suppose, means Entertainment, for himself, two servants, and three horses, as often as he should have occasion to come to the Bishop, on his Lordship's account.<sup>5</sup> The Grant and Ratification of this Annuity, as it throws a little light on the History of Physick, and may be looked upon by the Gentlemen of that Profession as a Curiosity, are remitted into the Appendix.<sup>6</sup> This Pension continued to be paid to Dr. *Lempster* many years after the Bishop's decease: for in the Catalogue of the *Harleian MSS*, now in the *British Museum*,<sup>7</sup> is this, 'Warrant for Payment of an Annuyte of 20 Marcs, which the worshipfulle in God William Grey, late Bishop of *Ely*, graunted to *Walter Lempler* Doctour of Phisfike, and did to be ratified & confirmed under the Convent Seale of the Monasterye of *Ely*. Yeven at *Westm.* 25 Dec. A<sup>o</sup> primo.' This was the 1<sup>st</sup> of *Rich. III.* viz. 1483.<sup>8</sup>

OUR Bishop died at *Downham* 4 *Aug.* 1478: from whence on the day following, his body was conveyed with great solemnity, almost all the Clergy of the Isle assisting on Horseback, with Torches and led Horses; and on the Afternoon of the said day, his *Exequies* were solemnly performed in the Choir: on the morrow he was buried betwixt two marble Pillars on the North-side of the Presbytery, near the place where Bishop *Alcock's* Chapel is now built.<sup>9</sup>

AT his death he bequeathed a variety of Plate and Ornaments to the Church;<sup>10</sup> and to *Baliol College*, many curious and valuable Books and MSS, which he had collected in Italy. He is said to have written a great deal, and that very learnedly;<sup>11</sup> though nothing is now extant.<sup>12</sup>

A Monument of grey Marble was erected to his memory, over the place of his interment, having thereon his Effigies in Marble, and under that his Portrait engraved on Brass, both which, as well as most of the other decorations are now gone: what remains of the Monument is represented in Plate XX.

## XXVII. JOHN

<sup>1</sup> Anno incipiente. <sup>2</sup> *Angl. Sacr.* v. i. p. 672. <sup>3</sup> *Regist. Gray.* fol. 96. <sup>4</sup> *Id.* fo. 97. <sup>5</sup> *MS Epi Elien. B.* fol. 84. <sup>6</sup> Appendix No. XXVIII. <sup>7</sup> No. 433. *Artic.* 1751. fol. 160. <sup>8</sup> See more instances of the same kind, *Id.* Art. 905. fol. 74. b. <sup>9</sup> *Angl. Sacr.* v. i. p. 673. <sup>10</sup> *Id.* *Ibid.* <sup>11</sup> *Leland de Scriptor. Brit.* p. 46. <sup>12</sup> *Pitfeus.* p. 855.

## XXVII. JOHN MORTON, LL.D. 1478.

WAS eldest Son of *Richard Morton* of *Milbourne St. Andrew's, Dorset*, Esq; born at *Beere* in the said County.<sup>1</sup> He received the first part of his education among the Monks of *Cerne Abby*, and thence removed to *Baliol College* in *Oxford*; became Moderator of the Civil-Law School, Principal of *Peckwater Hall* in 1453, and was one of the Commissaries of the University.

IN 1450 he was collated to the Sub-Deanery of the Cathedral of *Lincoln*,<sup>2</sup> and in 1458 to the Prebend of *Fordington* in the Church of *Salisbury*, (which he resigned in 1476.) In the same year 1458, he was installed Prebendary of *Corringham*<sup>3</sup> in the Church of *Lincoln*, resigning his Sub-Deanery. In 1472 he was collated to the Rectory of *St. Dunstan's* in the East, *London*,<sup>4</sup> (which he held only two years,) and about the same time to the Prebend of *Issington* in the Church of *St. Paul*, which he exchanged the next year for that of *Chefswick*.

IN 1473 he was made Master of the Rolls, in 1474 Archdeacon of *Winchester*, (in both which offices he was succeeded by his Nephew *Robert Morton* afterwards Bishop of *Worcester*.) He was also in this year collated to the Archdeaconry of *Chester*. The next year he was installed by Proxy Archdeacon of *Huntingdon*,<sup>5</sup> and also collated to the Prebend of *St. Decuman* in the Cath. Church of *Wells*.<sup>6</sup> In 1476 he was installed Prebendary of *South Newbald* in the Church of *York*, and also promoted to the Archdeaconry of *Berkshire*, and the next year to that of *Leicester*.<sup>7</sup>

THESE numerous promotions show the esteem with which he was regarded by several eminent Prelates, particularly by Cardinal *Bourchier* ABp of *Canterbury*,<sup>8</sup> to whom he recommended himself by a display of eminent abilities as a Civilian, during his practice in the Court of *Arches*: and through his favour a way was opened to his future greatness under King *Henry VI*, who made him a Privy Councillor: and he so strictly adhered to the interests of that unfortunate Prince, when most others deserted him; that even King *Edward IV* could not but admire and reward his fidelity, taking him into his Councils, and in 1478 making him both Bishop of *Ely* and Lord High Chancellor of *England*;<sup>9</sup> and such was the continuance of his regard to him, that at his Death he appointed him one of his Executors. He received his nomination to the Bishoprick of *Ely* the day after the interment of Bishop *Gray*, and was the next day elected; though the Papal Bull of Provision did not arrive till *Dec. 24*. The Temporalities were restored *Jan. 4*, 1479,<sup>10</sup> and he was Consecrated on the 31<sup>st</sup>, and Installed 29 *August* following with great State and Magnificence.<sup>11</sup>

BEING

<sup>1</sup> Baronetage of Engl. vol. ii. p. 33. Edit. 1720.    <sup>2</sup> Willis's Cath. Lincoln, p. 97.    <sup>3</sup> MSS Cole, vol. 27. p. 298.    <sup>4</sup> Newcourt's Repert. vol. i. p. 138.    <sup>5</sup> Willis's Cath. Lincoln. p. 107.    <sup>6</sup> Baronetage &c. p. 34.    <sup>7</sup> Le Neve. p. 164, 280.    <sup>8</sup> Godwin de Præfulibus Angl. p. 130.    <sup>9</sup> Chronica Juridicalia. pag. 139.    <sup>10</sup> Anno incipiente.    <sup>11</sup> The Abbots of Thorney, Bury, and Ramsey, with the Priors of Ely, Barnwell, and Anglesey, and the Master of the Rolls his Nephew, attended at his Installation; together with the following Knights and Gentlemen of the Country, Sir Thomas Howard, Sir John Donne, Sir John Wingfield, Sir Harry Wentworth, John Sapcote, Sir Edward Wodehouse, Sir Robert Chamberlayn, Sir John Cheyne, Sir William Brandon and his Lady,  
Z 2    Sir



BEING firmly attached to the interests of *Edward IV*, no wonder if he was looked on with an evil eye by *Richard* Protector of *Edward V*; and accordingly, when the Privy Council was assembled in the Tower to consult about the Coronation of that young King, the Bishop of *Ely*, together with *Rotheram* ABp of *York*, Lord *Stanley*, and others, was taken into custody, as known enemies to the measures then in agitation.<sup>1</sup> But our Bishop was soon released from prison, and given in ward to the Duke of *Buckingham*, at that time a warm partizan of *Richard*, but by conversation with the Bishop drawn off to opposite interests. The Bishop was sent to the Duke's Castle at *Brecknock*, and escaping from thence into the *Isle of Ely*, he passed the Seas in disguise, and negotiated the Marriage between *Henry* Earl of *Richmond* and the Princess *Elizabeth* eldest Daughter of *Edward IV*; thus providing for the future peace and tranquillity of the Kingdom, by making a coalition of the divided Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*.<sup>2</sup>

HE had before this time, under *Edward IV*, been employed in many important affairs of State, and so early as 1473 had the Custody of the Great Seal committed to his care for a time.<sup>3</sup> In 1474, he was sent Ambassador to the Emperor of *Germany*, and to the King of *Hungary*, to concert a League with them against *Lewis* King of *France*:<sup>4</sup> and the next year attended the King with his Army into *France*; and in August, together with Sir *Thomas Howard*, and two others, was appointed Commissioner to treat concerning the proposals of Peace which were offered by the *French* King; whereby a Peace was concluded on terms most honourable and advantageous for the *English*.

HAVING by many signal Services endeared himself to the Earl of *Richmond*, afterwards *Henry VII*; he was, on the Death of Cardinal *Bourchier* ABp of *Canterbury* in 1486, appointed to succeed him in that See, and was admitted to the Temporalities of it Dec. 6, that year; having immediately after his Election received a Grant<sup>5</sup> of the whole profits of it to his own use, and the disposal of all Preferments annexed to it.

On

Sir Robert Fynes, and John Fortescue, and other Gentry: who all dined with the Bishop on this solemnity. The particulars of this Feast, with some Poetry on the occasion, are preserved in a curious old printed Book in black Letter in the Heralds Office, and deserves a place in the Appendix; as well as another curious Memorial relating to this Installation, preserved among the Harleian MSS in the British Museum, giving an account of the Bishop's Pilgrimage from his Palace at Downham in the Isle, two Miles from Ely, to his Cathedral Church on Aug. 29, being the Feast of the Decolation of St. John Baptist, our Prelate's Name-day, barefoot, with the Ceremonies of his Installation; from whence the whole Company went with the Bishop to his Palace to a sumptuous Entertainment. Appendix N<sup>o</sup> XXIX, XXX.

<sup>1</sup> Hall's Chron. Edw. v. fol. xiii. b.    <sup>2</sup> How this transaction was conducted, is minutely set down in the Chronicle which goes under the name of Edward Halle, [Life of Rich. iii. fol. xxix. a.] where the Bishop's Character is naturally drawn, according to the manners of that Age; and the particular conversations between the Duke and Bishop are also related, and may by the Curious be perused. — A late most ingenious Writer has obliquely accused our Bishop of the violation of his allegiance to Richard iii. [Historical Doubts on the Life of Rich. iii. p. 18.] But can there be any violation of allegiance to a Person to whom none was due, or for aught that appears, was ever made? — As the Bishop was clapt up in prison before Richard was crowned, and was never after at liberty, till he attained it by his own flight, it is most probable he never swore any allegiance to him at all.    <sup>3</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. xi. p. 782. Dugd. Chron. Series &c. p. 71.    <sup>4</sup> Ibid. p. 836. and vol. xii. p. 14.    <sup>5</sup> Ibid. p. 302.

On *Aug.* 8, 1487, he was appointed Lord High Chancellor of *England*. In 1493 *Sept.* 20, he was created a Cardinal of the Church of *Rome*, by Pope *Alexander VI.*, by the Title of *St. Anastasia*.<sup>1</sup> He held the office of High Chancellor to his death; which happened on *Sept.* 15 or 16, 1500. He was buried beneath the Choir of the Cathedral Church of *Canterbury*, and had a sumptuous Monument erected for him.

WHILE he was Bishop of *Ely* he executed a work of very large expense and singular utility for draining the Fens and extending Navigation, by that Cut of 40 feet in breadth and 4 in depth from *Wisbech* to *Peterborough*, which is called *New Leame*, or *Morton's Leame*, being in course 12 Miles long; he also continued the same through *Wisbech*, and by other Cuts made a new Out-fall to the Sea.<sup>2</sup> He also rebuilt and beautified the Bishop's Palace at *Hatfield*, and rebuilt the Castle at *Wisbech*: And many other instances of his liberality in repairing Edifices at *Canterbury*, *Lambeth*, *Maidstone*, *Allington-Park*, *Charing*, and *Ford*, are mentioned by *Leland*; <sup>3</sup> and at *Oxford* he repaired the Canon-Law School, and was a large Contributor to the rebuilding of *St. Mary's Church*, and the Divinity School; his Arms are still remaining upon the Tower of *Wisbech Church*.

By his Will he made large bequests to pious uses; <sup>4</sup> and among these, he left to his ancient Church of *Ely* his Silver Cross, weighing 235 ounces, and his Episcopal Mitre richly set with Pearls and Precious Stones:—in return for which, and also in gratitude for many other favours conferred on them, both whilst he sat Bishop there, and afterwards as long as he lived, the Prior and Convent of *Ely* obliged themselves to 'find at their own expense, one of their Monks to say daily the Mass of *Requiem* for his Soul, and the Souls of his Parents, Friends, and Benefactors, for 20 years from the time of his death: and that the said Monk in every such Mass, should after the reading of the Gospel, in going to the Lavatory, say the Psalm *De profundis*, and ask every one then present, to say a *Pater Noster* and *Ave Maria*, for their Souls, agreeably to the Will of the said most reverend Lord *John Morton*, expressed in his last Will and Testament.' This Obligation of the Prior and Convent is dated in the Chapter-House at *Ely*, *April* 20, 1502.<sup>5</sup>

## XXVIII. JOHN ALCOCK, LL.D. 1486.

SON of *William Alcock* by *Joan* his Wife,<sup>6</sup> was born at *Beverley* in *Yorkshire*, and educated at *Cambridge*, and commenced LL.D. before 1461; in which year he was collated by *Thomas Kemp* Bishop of *London*, to the Rectory of *St. Margaret Fish-*

<sup>1</sup> Ciaconius de vit. Pontif. et Card. Tom. iii. col. 167. <sup>2</sup> Camden's Britannia. col. 294, 412. <sup>3</sup> Dugdale's Hist. of Imbanking &c. pag. 364, 372, 376. <sup>4</sup> Itinerary. vol. vii. pag. 129. <sup>5</sup> He founded Exhibitions for Scholars at both Universities, for 20 years after his decease; 20 at Oxford, and 10 at Cambridge. Among his bequests, there was one to the Lady Margaret, the King's Daughter, (to whom he was God-father,) of a Golden Cup, and 40*l.* — He is said also to have founded 4 Scholarships in *St. John's College* in *Cambridge*: [*Godwin de Præsul.* p. 131. Note *l.*] but as that College was not founded till several years after his death; if there are any such, they must be from application of his Money, intended at first for some other purpose. <sup>6</sup> Registr. Ep'i Elien. B. fol. 209. <sup>7</sup> Leland Itin. v. i. p. 50, 51.



*Fish-Street*; <sup>1</sup> and the same year promoted to the Deanery of the Royal Chapel of *St. Stephen Westminster*: <sup>2</sup> in 1462 he was appointed Master of the Rolls. *Dec.* 16, 1468, he was installed Prebendary of *Browndeswood* in the Cathedral Church of *St. Paul*; and the same year collated to the Prebend of *South Alton* in *Salisbury* Cathedral.

IN 1470, he was of the Privy Council to the King, and constituted his Ambassador to the King of *Castile*; <sup>3</sup> and the following year, together with the Queen and others, was by King *Edward IV*, appointed to be of the Privy Council to his Son *Edward* Prince of *Wales*: he was also in the same year one of the Commissioners for treating with the King of *Scotland*. In 1472, he was promoted to the See of *Rocheſter*, and also made Keeper of the Great Seal, till *Robert Stillington* Bishop of *Bath* and *Wells* should be recovered of his infirmities. He founded a Free-Grammar-School at *Kingſton* upon *Hull* about the year 1476, in which year he was translated to *Worceſter* *Sept.* 18, and received the Temporalties from the King *Sept.* 24. — While he continued Bishop there, he very elegantly enlarged the Collegiate Church of *Weſtbury*. About 1478, he was appointed President of *Wales*. In 1481, he viſited and reformed the Priory of *Little Malvern* in *Worceſtershire*, rebuilt their Church, repaired their Convent, and in a great meaſure diſcharged their Debts.

ON the death of King *Edward IV*, in 1483, being then *Præceptor* to King *Edward V*, he was removed from that charge by his Uncle the Protector; <sup>4</sup> however, he was ſuffered to enjoy his Liberty; and not, as many other of the young King's Friends, clapt up into priſon.

ON *March* 6, 1486, 1 *Henry VII*, ſoon after that King's Acceſſion, on ABp *Rothem*'s diſmiſſion from the office of Lord Chancellor, the Seals were delivered to his cuſtody; <sup>5</sup> which he reſigned not long after to Biſhop *Morton*, and in October following was translated to *Ely*. <sup>6</sup>

IN 1487 he Viſited in perſon the ancient Nunnery of *St. Radegund* in *Cambridge*. <sup>7</sup> It is probable that the many diſorders he then found in that Houſe, firſt ſuggeſted to him the thoughts of ſuppreſſing it, and converting it into a College of Students; though it was ſome years before that deſign was put in execution. For afterwards, upon his repreſenting the great irregularities of the Nuns, he obtained of the King a Patent, dated at *Weſtminſter* *June* 12, 1497, <sup>8</sup> for diſſolving the Nunnery, and founding in it's ſtead a perpetual College, conſiſting of one Maſter, fix Fellows, and a certain number of Scholars, for the increaſe of Learning, Piety and Virtue, to be called the College of the B. Virgin *Mary*, *St. John* the Evangeliſt, and *St. Radegund*, near *Cambridge*; to be governed by ſuch Statutes as He or his Succeſſors ſhould think proper to make and ordain. But the Biſhop having thought proper to add to this Title, that of the Holy Name *Jeſus*, it was even in his time commonly called *Jeſus College*. <sup>9</sup> Since that time it hath increaſed much in Buildings and Revenues, under the Patronage of the Biſhops of *Ely*; and now conſiſts of a Maſter, ſixteen Fellows, and thirty Scholars.

HIS

<sup>1</sup> Newcourt's Repertorium, v. i. p. 406. <sup>2</sup> Ib. p. 121. <sup>3</sup> Rymer's Fœd. v. xi. p. 653, 717, 764: <sup>4</sup> Joh. Roſſi Hiſt. Reg. Angl. p. 212. <sup>5</sup> Dugdale's Chron. Series. p. 74. <sup>6</sup> Regiſt. Alcock, fol. 1. Rymer's Fœdera, v. xii. p. 318. <sup>7</sup> Regiſtrum Alcock, fol. 153. <sup>8</sup> Rymer's Fœd. v. xii. p. 653. <sup>9</sup> Regiſt. Alcock, fol. 125.

HIS Device was a *Cock*; of which allusion to his Name he was extremely fond; as appears by his placing the figure of that Bird, with moral Sentences upon Scrolls in almost every part of the publick Buildings which he erected; — these were many and expensive: He adorned almost all his Manors with new buildings, and raised from the ground a noble Hall and Gallery <sup>1</sup> in his Palace at *Ely*; and the remainder of his revenues he spent in acts of Hospitality and Beneficence.

HE died at his Castle of *Wisbech* Oct. 1, 1500, and was buried in the middle of a sumptuous Chapel which he had built for himself, at the East-end of the North Isle of the Presbytery of his Cathedral Church.

HE was not only a considerable Writer, but an excellent Architect; which occasioned his being made <sup>2</sup> Comptroller of the Royal Works and Buildings under King *Henry VII*: and his Chapel above-mentioned is a noble Specimen of his skill in Architecture; though at present it lies sadly mangled by the fanatical zeal of tumultuous Reformers, in the same neglected state, which gave occasion, above a Century ago, to Bishop *Godwin*<sup>3</sup> to express his wishes, that some Person of the many who were benefited by Bishop *Alcock*'s munificence, would have the generosity to pay for it's reparation. — His Tomb, with his Effigies thereon much defaced, is placed on the North-side of the Chapel under an Arch of Stone.<sup>4</sup> Some time since, on opening a Grave at a distance from this Chapel, a Stone was turned up with this Inscription, 'Johannes Alcock Epus Elien. hanc fabrycam fieri fecit 1488;' being probably the Date when he began the Chapel: this Stone is at present placed in the East wall of the Chapel.<sup>5</sup>

## XXIX. RICHARD REDMAN, D.D. 1501.

AFTER a vacancy of near a year, being then Bishop of *Exeter*, was translated to the See of *Ely* by Papal Provision: the Temporalities were restored to him on Sept. 26, 1501,<sup>6</sup> by King *Henry VII*, who also gave him all the profits due to the Crown, during the vacancy.

HE is said to have been educated at *Cambridge*; <sup>7</sup> became a Canon Regular of *St. Augustin* of the order of *Premonstre*; and in 1471, was Abbot of *Shappe* in *Westmorland*, (being also in 1491 Visitor General of his Order;) which he held *in commendam* with his Bishoprick of *St. Asaph*; to which he was promoted as being zealous in the interests

<sup>1</sup> *Angl. Sacr.* v. i. p. 675. — The Gallery now remaining on the West-side of the Palace, was built by Bishop Goodrich; whose Arms are on the Bow-window towards the Green. <sup>2</sup> *Parker's Hist. of Cambr.* p. 119. <sup>3</sup> *De Præful. Angl.* p. 270. <sup>4</sup> Plate XXI. <sup>5</sup> *Bale*, who rarely speaks of any one with moderation, thus acknowledges the good and amiable qualities of this worthy Bishop: 'Johannes Alcock, ab ipsa pueritia bonarum literarum studiis ac pietati deditus, ita a virtute in virtutem crevit, ut eo nemo per Angliam majori sanctitatis nomine insigniretur. Par-  
' cissime plane per totam ætatem victitasse dicitur, duriterque vigiliis, studiis, abstinentiis, & aliis  
' castigationibus domuisse prurientis suæ carnis illicebas: — in omni vita abstinentissimus iste erat.' *Bale*, *Script. illustr. Britan. Catalog.* Cent. 8. p. 631, 632. <sup>6</sup> *Rymer's Fœd.* vol. xii. p. 775, 779.  
<sup>7</sup> *Godwin de Præful. Angliæ*, p. 270. — Mr. Willis (*Survey of St. Asaph Cath.* p. 69.) sup-  
poses him to have been born in Hertfordshire, and near the Bishop's Palace at Hatfield; but upon  
what



interests of King *Edward IV*, when *Thomas Knight* was deprived on account of his attachment to King *Henry VI*. It is probable that *R. Bishop of St. Asaph Oct. 30, 1468*, mentioned by *Mr. Wharton*,<sup>1</sup> was meant for him; though (from the confusion of the times,) he obtained not licence of Consecration from *Canterbury* till *Oct. 13, 1471*, and does not seem to have been Consecrated till the middle of the following year.<sup>2</sup> However, as King *Henry's* party gained strength in 1469, *Bishop Knight* seems to have been re-established in his See, and received a Summons to attend King *Henry's* Parliament at *Westminster*; <sup>3</sup> where acting zealously for the restoration of his old Master, against the claims of *Edward IV*, he was by that Prince convicted of High Treason; and to compound for his fault, was forced to resign his Bishoprick; upon which he had an especial Pardon passed *Oct. 30, 1471*.

*BISHOP Redman* proved a most liberal and generous Benefactor to the See of *St. Asaph*, by rebuilding his Cathedral Church, which had been burnt down about 1404 by *Owen Glendour*, and laid in ruins near 80 years, with only the walls standing: these he repaired about 1490, and having carried them up to their present height, he placed thereon a new Roof, and made the East-Window, the Bishop's Throne, Stalls in the Choir, and other inside reparations and ornaments; <sup>4</sup> his Arms yet remaining in divers parts of the Fabrick.

IN 1487 he was entangled in the affair of *Lambert Symnell*, and on that account falling under the displeasure of King *Henry VII*, was complained of to the Pope for this his disloyalty; who by Bull dated *Jan. 9* that year, commissioned the Archbishop with the Bishops of *Winchester*, *Ely* and *Exeter*, to inquire into that matter, and to transmit the result of it to *Rome*.<sup>5</sup> It is reasonable to suppose that the Bishop acquitted himself to the King's satisfaction; as he was in 1492<sup>6</sup> appointed by him one of his Commissioners to treat of Peace with the *Scots*, and the year after was made one of his Privy Council.<sup>7</sup> In 1495 he was promoted to the See of *Exeter*, having the Temporalities of it restored to him *Jan. 7* following;<sup>8</sup> and in 1501 was translated to

*Ely*;

what authority I know not; he further reports, that he was first Rector of Kellhall in that County, and then of Stretham in the Isle of *Ely*, both of the gift of William Gray Bishop of this Diocese, to whom it is supposed, he was Chaplain; but I presume that he was neither Rector of one, nor the other; for the Master Richard Redman, M. A. and Chaplain to Bishop Gray, who at Downham presented him 1 Mar. 1455, (*Regist. Gray. fo. 12. b.*) to the Rectory of Kellhall, and who was Chaplain to that Bishop in 1457; (*ibid. fo. 27. b.*) who further collated him to the Rectory of Stretham aforesaid, 17 Mar. 1458, (*ib. fo. 41. a.*) when he is called his Domestick Chaplain, was a different Person from our Bishop Redman; as will appear from the following circumstances: In 1488, being grown very old and infirm, having been in possession of Stretham 30 years, he was disposed to retire, and probably to Cambridge, for the remainder of his life: accordingly, on 29 Oct. 1488, he resigned the said Living of Stretham, into the hands of Bishop Alcock, (*Regist. Alcock. fo. 32, 33, 34.*) on account of his great age and infirmities; at which time he is called *Honorabilis Magister Ricardus Redeman, S. T. B.* when the Bishop assigns him a Pension of 12*l. per ann.* out of that Rectory, giving these reasons for that assignment, 'Because he had laudably taken care of his Parish during his incumbency, and that the Clerical Order should not be disgraced through Poverty.' Which Pension was to be paid quarterly at the High Altar of *St. Sepulchre's* Church in Cambridge. <sup>1</sup> *De Ep̄s Lond. & S. Asvensibus. p. 351.* <sup>2</sup> *Id. p. 352.* <sup>3</sup> *Id. p. 351.* <sup>4</sup> *Willis's Survey of St. Asaph. p. 5, 48, 70, 133. Godwin de Præful. p. 641.* <sup>5</sup> *Rymer's Fœd. vol. xii. p. 333, 334.* <sup>6</sup> *Ibid. p. 494.* <sup>7</sup> *Godwin de Præful. p. 941. Note m.* <sup>8</sup> *Rymer's Fœd. vol. xii. p. 577.*

*Ely*; where having lived with great Hospitality not full four years, he died on *Aug.* 24, 1505, at *Ely-House* in *Holborn*, and was buried according to his own directions in his Cathedral Church of *Ely*, between two Pillars on the North-side of the Presbytery, where a sumptuous Monument<sup>1</sup> is erected to his Memory. By his last Will he gave considerably to his old Monastery of *Shappe*; <sup>2</sup> several small Legacies to all the Religious Houses in the Diocese of *Ely*; 100 Marks to the Cathedral, and the like Sum to be distributed to the Poor on the day of his Burial. In his journeys, through any towns where he staid but an hour, it was his practice to cause a Bell to be rung, that the Poor might come and partake of his Charity, which he plentifully bestowed among them.<sup>3</sup> Bishop *Godwin* who records this of him, seems however not to approve of this ostentatious way of giving Alms, as bordering too much upon what our B. Saviour has reprehended in the Pharisees; and therefore subjoins, ‘*Verisimile est illum qui tam multum palam donabat, plurima etiam contulisse clanculum, quæ omnibus non innotescerent.*’<sup>4</sup>

XXX. JAMES STANLEY, D.D. 1506.

WAS the third Son of *Thomas Stanley*, created Earl of *Derby* in 1485. Mr. *Wood* reckons him to have received his education at *Oxford*.<sup>5</sup> In Bishop *Godwin* he is considered as a Graduate in *Cambridge*:<sup>6</sup> however, he occurs Prebendary of *Holywell* in the Cathedral Church of *St. Paul*,<sup>7</sup> to which he was collated so early as *Aug.* 26, 1458,<sup>8</sup> and held it till 1481, when he exchanged it for the Wardenship of *Manchester*. In 1491 he was installed Prebendary of *Yatminster prima* in the Cathedral Church of *Salisbury*, which he exchanged the next year for that of *Bemister prima*

<sup>1</sup> Plate XXII. <sup>2</sup> Willis's Surv. of Ely Cath. p. 356. <sup>3</sup> Hearne's Preface to Pet. Langtoft's Chron. p. xxxiv. <sup>4</sup> De Præsul. Angl. p. 270, 271. <sup>5</sup> Athen. Oxon. v. i. p. 652, 653. & Fasti p. 12. — In order to his Promotion to this See in 1506, Mr. Wood informs us, that he by the Name of ‘*Jacobus Stanley nuper hujus Universitatis Scholasticus*,’ supplicated the Congregation of Regents, that he might be licenced to proceed in the Civil Law; which was granted, with some conditions: and that on Jan. 29. of the following year, the said Regents, with the Non-Regents did grant, that the said James Stanley Bp. of Ely might be created Dr. of Decrees, by a Cap put on his Head by William A. Bp. of Canterbury and Richard Bp. of London: which Grant being accordingly executed at, or near London with solemnity; a Letter of Thanks was sent to the University for the honour they had done unto him. <sup>6</sup> De Præsul. Angl. pag. 271. — Where Bp. Godwin says expressly, that he was Dr. in Divinity, and his late Editor Dr. Richardson (Note r) more particularly, that he was so of Cambridge. <sup>7</sup> Newcourt's Repert. v. i. p. 160. <sup>8</sup> This circumstance serves to correct a mistake in Mr. Archdeacon Knight, who in his *Life of Erasmus*, (pag. 18, 19.) takes notice of a young illiterate rich Priest, who resided with him in his House at Paris in the year 1496, and who had refused a Bishoprick on a consciousness of his Insufficiency; but was to have possession of it the next year, when he had made some further progress in Learning, and had made great offers to Erasmus to instruct him: but all in vain; for Erasmus in his boasting way, says, that he despised these great offers, which would have taken him from his Studies. This person Dr. Knight supposes to have been our Bp. Stanley: but him it could not be, on many accounts; as the title of *Adolescens*, or Youth could not agree to his Age, even supposing him to have been a Beneficiary ever so young; for in 1458, 28 years before, we find him a Prebendary of *St. Paul's*: neither was he made a Bishop till 9 or 10 years after the time assigned by Erasmus for the 2<sup>d</sup> offer of that Dignity.



*ma* in the same Church: in 1493 he was made Dean of *St. Martin's le Grand, London*:<sup>1</sup> in 1500 Archdeacon of *Richmond*; in 1505 Precentor of *Salisbury*; having been also Prebendary of the Collegiate Churches of *Southwell* and *Rippon*.

IN 1506 he was promoted to the See of *Ely*, by the Pope's Bull of Provision,<sup>2</sup> bearing date 17 *July*, that year. The Temporalities were restored *Nov. 5* following by the King; who also by a Grant dated 13 of the same month, gave him the whole profits of the See during the vacancy, to the amount of near 2500 *l*.

IT is reasonably enough supposed by Mr. *Baker*,<sup>3</sup> that the powerful interest of his Mother-in-law *Margaret*, Countess of *Richmond* and *Derby*, occasioned his promotion in the Church: — 'The worst thing, says he, she ever did!' — This reflection, no doubt, is in regard to our Bishop's Morals; which will by no means bear the strictest scrutiny; and particularly hints at the story related by Bishop *Godwin*, in respect to his incontinency: and this has led that Historian to be so severe on his Memory, that he says further, 'That he died without performing any one thing, deserving to be remembered:'<sup>4</sup> — thereby cancelling at once, on account of that single fault, all the good actions of his Life. — However, we ought not, I think, on that account, to forget some worthy actions that are recorded of him.

HE was extremely generous in point of Hospitality: a Benefactor to *Jesus College*, by giving to it the Impropriation of the Rectory of *Great Shelford* near *Cambridge*, partly for founding a Fellowship therein, the Patronage of which he reserved to his Successors the Bishops of *Ely*: he also compiled the Statutes of that College, and got them confirmed by Pope *Julius II*: he likewise built a noble Chapel on the North-side of the Choir of the Collegiate Church at *Manchester*, and wainscoted the whole South-side of the Choir, with stalls and other ornaments; and much improved the Bishop of *Ely*'s Palace at *Somersham*: add to this, his provident care in improving the Patronage of his See, by another Fellowship in the same University, which still remains in the nomination of his Successors: for it appears by an Indenture of agreement between our Bishop and the Executors of the Countess of *Richmond* and *Derby*, bearing date 12 *Dec. 2 Henry VIII. 1510*;<sup>5</sup> when he agreed to give them possession of the House or Priory (as it is there called) of *St. John* the Evangelist in *Cambridge*, in order to found the present College of that Name; that he was careful to maintain the dignity and honour of his Cathedral Church, by stipulating, That the Bishops of *Ely*, who were Founders and Patrons of the House or Priory, should still be accounted as secondary Founders of the College: and moreover reserved to himself the Nomination and Election of three Fellows during his life, and to renew them as often as their places became vacant; and to his Successors for ever, the Nomination and Election of one of the Fellows of the said College.

HE died at *Manchester Mar. 22, 1515*, and was there buried in the aforesaid Chapel, which was then building and afterwards compleated, as was also his Tomb of grey Marble,

<sup>1</sup> Newcourt's Repert. v. i. p. 428.

<sup>2</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. xiii. p. 158.

<sup>3</sup> Preface to Bp.

Fisher's Funeral Sermon on the Countess of Richm and Derby, p. xviii, and xxi.

<sup>4</sup> Godwin de

Præsul. Angl. p. 271.

<sup>5</sup> Registrum Ep̃i Elien. B. fol. 244, 245.

Marble, by his natural Son Sir *John Stanley*; on the Table of which Tomb, is a small Figure of the Bishop in Brafs, *in Pontificalibus*, and an Infcription at his feet, both of them perfect, as represented in Plate XXIII. <sup>1</sup>

## XXXI. NICHOLAS WEST, LL.D. 1515.

**W**AS the Son of *John West*, a Baker of *Putney* in *Surrey*. By the violence of his temper and by his misconduct, he is said to have suffered disgrace in his early years.<sup>2</sup> But these failings were abundantly compensated by his future regularity and diligence, and by a display of good Learning, particularly in Divinity, and the Civil and Canon Law; which endeared him to Bishop *Fisher* and Sir *Thomas More*, and proved the occasion of his rising in the World. Before his promotion in the Church, we find him much employed in publick affairs in the reign of *Henry VII*, to whom he was Chaplain: and indeed his skill in matters of state was so eminent, that

<sup>1</sup> Bishop Stanley's Character seems to be very impartially drawn in a MS History of the Derby Family, (now in the possession of a Gentleman who has contributed Materials to the biographical Part of this History :) it is in Verse, and seems to have been written by a Person who lived near his time, and probably might remember him: — After speaking of the Bishop's Father, and his other Children, he thus proceeds;

- ' His third Sonne was James, a goodlie Man, a Priefte :
- ' Yet little Priefte's mettall was in him, by Chrifte :
- ' As manie more, pittie ! Sacred Orders take
- ' For Promotion, rather then for Chrifte's sake ;
- ' And ofte, most long of frendes, the truthe to tell :
- ' It is greate grace if such a one prove well .
- ' Greate abuse in Priesthood, and Matrimonie,
- ' When fancie of Frendes shall chuse for the Partie.
- ' A goodlie tawell Man, as was in all England,
- ' And sped well in matters that he took in hand.
- ' King Henerie the VII<sup>th</sup> a Prince noble and sage,
- ' Made him Bishoppe for his Wisdome and Parentage.
- ' Of Elie many a day was he Bysshoppe there ;
- ' Builded Sommerfame, the Bysshopps cheife Mannere.
- ' An great Viander, as anie in his dayes :
- ' To Bysshoppes that then was, this is no dispraise.
- ' Because he was a Priest I dare doe noe less
- ' But leeve, as I know not of his hardinesse.
- ' What Priefte hath a blowe one the one eare, sodainlie
- ' Turne the other lykewise, for humilitie.
- ' Hee woulde not doe foe, by the Crosse in my purse ;
- ' Yet I truste his Soule fareth never the worse.
- ' For hee did Actes bouldlie divers in his daies,
- ' If hee had beene noe Priefte, had beene worthie praise.
- ' Hee did ende his life at merrie Manchester,
- ' And right honourable lyes buried there,
- ' In his Chappell, which he began of Free-stone :
- ' Sir John Standeley made it out, when he was gone.
- ' God send his Soule to the heavenlie companie !
- ' Farewell, godlie James, Bysshoppe of Elie !'

Prior Robert Steward seems to have hit off his Character in these few words, (*Angl. Sacr. v.i. p. 676.*) *'Armis quam Libris peritior ;'* — which notably suit with some lines in this MS Poem.

<sup>2</sup> MS Hist. of the Provosts and Fellows of King's College.---Godwin de Præsul. *Angl.* pag. 271.



that he was employed in numberless Embassies and Negotiations abroad,<sup>1</sup> in *Germany, France, Spain, and Scotland* for above twenty-five years together.

HE received the first part of his education at *Eton*, and was admitted into *King's College in Cambridge* 1483, and being Fellow of that College proceeded to his Degrees in Arts, and afterwards became LL.D. before 1501. He quitted the College about 1499: was Rector of *Egglescliffe* in the Bishoprick of *Durham*: Archdeacon of *Derby* in 1501: and became Rector of *Witney* in *Oxfordshire* in 1502; which Benefice he retained till he was made a Bishop. In 1510, he was installed Dean of *Windsor*, and was Register of the most noble Order of the Garter.

ON Sept. 23, 1514, he was with other Ambassadors, appointed to conduct the Lady *Mary*, the King's Sister, into *France*,<sup>2</sup> where she was married at *Abbeville* Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> to *Lewis XII*, and Crowned Queen Nov. 6. But *Lewis* dying Jan. 1 following, the King sent over *Charles Brandon* Duke of *Suffolk*, with Sir *Richard Wingfield* and our Dr. *West* with Letters of Condoleance to his Sister the Queen of *France*; who there privately married the D. of *Suffolk*. The two former returning into *England*, Dr. *West* remained at *Paris* Apr. 16, 1515, being commissioned by the King to ratify the Peace lately concluded between the two Crowns, and to receive the Oath of *Francis I*, for the due observation of the Articles; which ceremony was performed May 8 in the Castle of *Montargis*. Before this time, Apr. 18, 1515, we find him styled Bishop Elect of *Ely*; <sup>3</sup> so that he was very soon after the death of Bp. *Stanley* nominated to that See. On May 18 the King granted him the profits of it <sup>4</sup> for his own use, from the death of his Predecessor: and Pope *Leo X* also by his Bull dated at *Rome* Aug. 6, conferred the said Bishoprick on him by way of Provision: <sup>5</sup> the King put him into possession of the Temporalties Sept. 6; On Oct. 7, he was Consecrated at *Lambeth* by ABp. *Warham*; and enthroned by Proxy Feb. 21 following.<sup>6</sup>

On May 30, 1515, he was, together with *Thomas Lord Dacre* and *Greystock*, and *Thomas Magnus* Archdeacon of the *East-riding* in *Yorkshire*, appointed Commissary to treat with the King of *Scotland*: On Oct. 1, 1518, he was employed as Ambassador in a Treaty of Peace between Pope *Leo X*, *Francis I*, and other Powers; and also in a Treaty of Marriage between the Princess *Mary* Daughter of K. *Henry VIII*, and the young Dauphin *Francis*; at which time an Interview between the two Kings, *Henry VIII* and *Francis I*, was concerted; and our Bishop was appointed to attend at that Ceremony; which took place at *Ardres* near *Calais*, the celebrated *Camp Drap d'Or*.<sup>7</sup> On Feb. 10, 1519, he was appointed to surrender the City of *Tournay* to the *French* King. May 27, 1520, he attended the King at *Canterbury* at the reception of the Emperor *Charles V*; <sup>8</sup> and on Aug 28, 1525, we find him named with other Commissioners in a Treaty of Peace and Friendship, with the Ambassadors of *Francis I*,<sup>9</sup> then a Prisoner at *Madrid*, and his Mother the Queen Regent of *France*.

HE

<sup>1</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. xiii. pag. 35, 114, 155, 278, 309, 332, &c.---Lord Herbert's Life of Henr. VIII. p. 22, 27, 30.---Fiddes's Life of Card. Wolsey. p. 67, 76, 96. <sup>2</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. xiii. p. 347. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. pag. 491, 501. <sup>4</sup> Ib. p. 510. <sup>5</sup> Ib. p. 515, 516. <sup>6</sup> Registrum West. fo. 5. <sup>7</sup> Montfaucon Antiq. de la Monarchie Franc. vol. iv. p. 162. <sup>8</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. xiii. p. 768. <sup>9</sup> Id. vol. xiv. p. 56.

HE is generally acknowledged to have lived in the greatest splendor of any Prelate of his time, having above an Hundred Domesticks, at the wages, some of 40s, others at 4*l.*—Each being allowed for their Winter and Summer Liveries 7 yards and an half of Cloth, and 4 yards for their Winter Cloaks. The Poor relieved daily at his Gate with Meat and Drink were 200; besides many occasional largesses.<sup>1</sup>

AT *Putney* in *Surrey*, where he was born, he built a very elegant Chapel<sup>2</sup> adjoining to the Church: and was a considerable Benefactor to *King's College*<sup>3</sup> in Plate and other respects.

PERHAPS the Reader would not lay any great stress upon the many encomiums on the Learning, and other great accomplishments of our Bishop, which are to be found in the Dedications of several Books of Literature and Piety to him:—though those of Bishop *Fisher*<sup>4</sup> must be allowed to carry considerable weight with them.

IN the affair of the Divorce, he was a zealous Advocate for his Mistress *Queen Catharine*, to whom he had long been Chaplain; and wrote a Book, *De non dissolvendo Henrici Regis primo Matrimonio cum Catharina*: whilst King *Henry VIII* was, at the same time, in eager pursuit of a Divorce. These circumstances considered; no wonder if our Bishop was made sensible, that however great a favourite he might heretofore have been; yet that now the case was quite altered; and he found his interest with the King daily decline. The Gout and other bodily infirmities, brought upon him, or at least aggravated by the trouble and uneasinesses he met with in the abovementioned affair, it is generally thought, put a period to his Life on April 6, as Bp. *Godwin*<sup>5</sup> says, or by other accounts<sup>6</sup> on the 28<sup>th</sup> of that Month 1533.

ACCORDING to his appointment, he was buried in the Chapel which he had built for that purpose, at the East end of the South-Isle of the Presbytery of his Cathedral:—a work whose singular elegance and exquisite workmanship still appears, notwithstanding the outrageous violences which it has suffered from the fanaticism of Enthusiastick Reformers. His Arms are engraved and painted in various parts of the Chapel; and his Motto carved on the Stone-work, is often repeated on a Moulding running round the whole, *Gratia Dei sum quod sum*:—alluding perhaps to his own misbehaviour, in his first setting out as a Scholar at the University, and his exemplary conduct afterwards; and which probably he made use of, not so much as a Motto, as a Memento on that occasion. On a brass plate was formerly this Inscription: ‘Of your Charitie pray for the Soule of Nicholas West sometyme Bishop of this See, and for all Christen Soules: in the whych Prayer he hath graunted to every person so doing, 40 days of pardon, for every time they shall so pray.’

### XXXII. THOMAS GOODRICH. D.D. 1534.

ON the death of Bishop *West*, his Nephew and Godson Dr. *Nicholas Hawkins* Archdeacon of *Ely*, at that time the King's Ambassador in foreign parts, was designed to succeed him:<sup>7</sup> but he dying before his Consecration could be effected; the

<sup>1</sup> MS Hist. of King's College. --- Godwin de Præful. Angl. p. 271. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. <sup>4</sup> Vid. Opera Cardinalis Fisher. p. 101. Wirceburgi 1597. Fol. <sup>5</sup> De Præful. Angl. p. 272. <sup>6</sup> Angl. Sacra. vol. i. p. 676. <sup>7</sup> Godwin de Præful. Angl. p. 272. Angl. Sacra. vol. i. p. 676.



the King granted his Licence to the Prior and Convent, dated March 6, 1534, to choose themselves a Bishop; <sup>1</sup> who thereupon elected in their Chapter-house the 17<sup>th</sup> of the same Month, THOMAS GOODRICH, S. T. P.; which Election was confirmed by the Archbishop April 13 following, in the Parish-Church of *Croydon*; who also consecrated him in his own Chapel in that Town, on the 19<sup>th</sup> of that Month. He was installed by his Proxy *William Meye* LL.D. 2 May.

THIS Bishop was the Second Son of *Edward Goodrich* of *East-Kirby* in *Lincolnshire*; was admitted Pensioner of *Benet* College in *Cambridge* <sup>2</sup> soon after the year 1500. He became Fellow of *Jesus* College in 1510, commenced M. A. in 1514, and the following year was Proctor of the University. Being of a studious turn, he made great proficiency in several branches of Learning, particularly in the Civil and Canon Laws. In 1529, he was appointed one of the Syndics to return an Answer from the University of *Cambridge*, concerning the Lawfulness of King *Henry VIII's* Marriage with *Queen Catharine*; and from his readiness to oblige the King in that business, was recommended to his royal favour. He was presented to the Rectory of *St. Peter's Cheap* in *London*, by Cardinal *Wolsey* at that time Commendatory of the Monastery of *St. Alban*; and soon after made Canon of *St. Stephen's Westminster*, and Chaplain to the King; by whose favour he was advanced to this See of *Ely*.

BEING a zealous forwarder of the Reformation, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Sept. after his coming hither, he Visited the Prior and Convent of *Ely*: <sup>3</sup> and the next year sent a Mandate to all the Clergy of his Diocese, dated at *Somersham* June 27, 1535, with orders to erase the Name of the Pope out of all their Books, and to publish in their Churches, that the Pope had no further authority in this Kingdom: this Mandate may be seen in the Appendix; <sup>4</sup> together with his Injunctions, dated from *Ely* 21 Oct. 1541, to the Clergy; to see that all Images, Relicks, Table-Monuments of Miracles, Shrines, &c. be so totally demolished and obliterated, with all speed and diligence, that no remains or memory might be found of them for the future. Which Injunctions were executed with such speed, secrecy, and punctuality in his Cathedral, and other Churches in the Diocese of *Ely*; that no traces remain of many famous Shrines and Altars, which formerly were the objects of frequent resort, nor any signs at all, that they had ever existed. <sup>5</sup>

IN 1540 he was appointed by the Convocation to be one of the Revisors of the Translation of the New Testament; and *St. John's Gospel* was allotted to his share: He was named one of the Commissioners for reforming the Ecclesiastical Laws, both by *Henry VIII* and *Edward VI*, as well as by the University of *Cambridge*: and had a hand in compiling the Common Prayer Book of the Church of *England* 1548; and also the *Institution of a Christian Man*. Besides this, he was of the Privy Council to King *Henry VIII* and *Edward VI*, and employed by them in several Embassies, and

other

<sup>1</sup> Rymer's *Fœdera* vol. xiv. p. 485, 486, 487, 527. <sup>2</sup> Masters's Hist. of C. C. C. C. pag. 293. <sup>3</sup> *Registrum Goodrich.* fo. 3, 25. <sup>4</sup> N<sup>o</sup> XXXI. <sup>5</sup> The same Policy made the Purchasers of Religious Houses, in as great an hurry to pull down the Edifices, particularly the Churches and Chapels belonging to them; that they no longer subsisting in the eyes of the people, might be the sooner forgotten by them.

other business of the State. In 1551, he was made Lord Chancellor of *England*, in the room of Lord *Rich*, which high Office he discharged with singular reputation of integrity: though in matters of Religion he was suspected by some, of too much disposition to temporize in favour of Popery, upon the accession of *Queen Mary*: but for what reason, I know not; unless it was, because he was suffered to keep his Bishoprick to his death; though the Seals were then taken from him. He was esteemed a Patron of Learned Men; and expended large sums in building and embellishing his Palaces, particularly at *Ely*, where the long Gallery carries tokens of his munificence, his Arms still remaining on the stone-work of the Bow-window towards the Green. He died at *Somersham* May 10, 1554; and was buried in the middle of the Presbytery of his Cathedral Church, under a Marble with his Effigies in Brasses,<sup>1</sup> mitred, in his Pontifical Habit, and the Great Seal as Lord Chancellor in one of his Hands, and an Inscription round it, which may be seen below.<sup>2</sup>

## XXXIII. THOMAS THIRLBY, LL.D. 1554.

WAS born at *Cambridge*, and educated in *Trinity Hall* in that University, of which Society he became Fellow, and was very eminent in the profession of Civil Law. In 1534 King *Henry VIII* preferred him to the Archdeaconry of *Ely*; and not long after made him Dean of the Chapel Royal. On the Dissolution of *Westminster* Abby, the King having, by his Letters Patent dated Dec. 17, 1540, erected it into an Episcopal See, appointed him Bishop thereof, to which he was Consecrated on the 19<sup>th</sup> of the same Month. This new Bishoprick, however, did not continue many years; for in the reign of *Edward VI*, Bishop *Thirlby* was prevailed on to surrender it into the King's hands, March 29, 1550; who thereupon dissolved it; at which time *Middlesex*, which had been assigned for it's Diocese, was reunited to the See of *London*, and the Bishop translated to *Norwich*. As he had been a Privy Councillor to K. *Henry VIII*, and *Edward VI*; so on the accession of *Queen Mary*, he continued in the same station; and being in high favour at Court, was translated to *Ely*, the Temporalities of which he received Sept. 15, 1554;<sup>3</sup> and was soon after sent Ambassador to *Rome*, to represent to the Pope the state of the Kingdom, and promise in the Name of King *Philip* and *Queen Mary* obedience to the Apostolick See. He is said to have been a discreet moderate Man, in respect to his religious tenets; and when he had the invidious task imposed on him of Degrading Archbishop *Cranmer*, before he was burnt as an Heretick, he was observed to shed abundance of tears, whilst he was performing that Office. However, there was one

Cler-

<sup>1</sup> Plate XXV. <sup>2</sup> 'Thomas Goodricus annos plus minus viginti Ecclesie hujus Episcopus hoc loco sepultus est. Duobus Anglie illustrissimis Regibus, variis et Religionis et Reipublice muneribus pergratus fuit; foris enim apud externos Principes sepe Legatus; domi quidem cum Regi Edwardo ejus Nominis Sexto aliquamdiu Consiliarius extitisset, Magnus tandem Anglie factus Cancellarius. Chariorne Principi propter singularem prudentiam, an amabilior populo propter integritatem et abstinentiam fuerit, adjudicandum est perquam difficile. Obiit 10 die Maii Anno a Christo nato Millesimo [quingentissimo] quinquagesimo quarto.' 'Si Deus nobiscum, quis contra nos,' <sup>3</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. xv. p. 405.



Clergyman *John Hullier* Vicar of *Baburham*, burnt at *Cambridge* for Heresy in his time; and two others *William Wolfey*, and *Robert Pygot* condemned to the flames, by *Dr. Fuller* his Chancellor, and burnt at *Wisbech* on the like account.

BISHOP *Thirlby* must be reckoned one of the most considerable Benefactors to his See of *Ely*; for having by his interest procured from the Crown the best and most valuable part of the Patronage it at present enjoys; a Grant of the Nomination and Advowson of the Eight Prebends in his Cathedral Church to himself and Successors for ever.<sup>1</sup> His benefaction also to *Jesús College* in *Cambridge*, will be remembered with gratitude by that Society, to whom he obtained a Grant of the Advowsons of the Vicarages of *Fordham*, *Gilden-Morden*, *Whittleford*, *Comberton*, *Hinxton*, and *Swavesey*.<sup>2</sup>

IN the beginning of Queen *Elizabeth's* reign, he continued some little time in favour, and was employed in publick affairs, being nominated one of the Queen's Commissioners in a Treaty with the Ambassadors of *France*,<sup>3</sup> and also in another Treaty with the Ambassadors from *Scotland*: but soon after the Queen's first Parliament broke up; on his refusing the Oath of Supremacy, and opposing the Reformation of Religion, that had been resolved on; he was deprived of his Bishoprick, and committed to the Tower.—He was reckoned a Learned and Good-natured Man, and of an even and pleasant temper: one instance I find recorded of him is, that upon his commitment, being searched by the Lieutenant of the Tower, and asked why he carried so much Gold about him, (having, it is said, in his purses and doublet to the value of 500 *French Crowns*,) replied, 'He loved to have his friends about him, as not knowing his fare without them.'<sup>4</sup> He did not long continue in his confinement in the Tower; for his friends soon after obtained leave for him, and *Dr. Boxall* his Archdeacon, and *Tunstal* late Bp. of *Durham*, to live together with ABp. *Parker* at *Lambeth*; where they were all very kindly treated. Here our Bishop lived for about 10 years; and dying in the Palace at *Lambeth*, Aug. 26, 1570, the the ABp. took care to have him decently interred in the Chancel of the Parish Church there; and placed over him a large plain Stone, with this short Inscription, 'Hic jacet *Thomas Thirleby* olim Episcopus *Eliensis*, qui obiit 26 Aug. A. D. 1570.'

#### XXXIV. RICHARD COX, D. D. 1559.

BORN at *Whaddon* in *Bucks*, was educated in *Eton School*, and thence elected to *King's College* in *Cambridge*, of which he was admitted Fellow 1519; but he removed thence in 1525, with several other persons of that University, at the instance of Cardinal *Wolfey*, to his new-founded College in *Oxford*; of which he was made a Junior Fellow, and proceeded to the Degree of M. A. the following year. Whilst he was at *Oxford*, being found a follower of *Luther's* opinions, he was brought into some trouble on that account; which probably occasioned his leaving the University. Some time after, he was made Master of *Eton School*, Chaplain to the King, and

<sup>1</sup> This Grant may be seen in *Rymer's Fœd.* vol. xv. pag. 451. <sup>2</sup> *Parker's Σχολεῖος Cantab.* — *Fuller Hist. Cambr.* pag. 86. <sup>3</sup> *Rymer Fœd.* vol. xv. pag. 510, 515. <sup>4</sup> MS Notes of the Bishops and Deans of *Ely*.

and Tutor to the Prince of *Wales*, afterwards K. *Edward VI.* In the year 1541 the King presented him to the Archdeaconry of *Ely*, (vacant by the promotion of Dr. *Thirlby* to the new-erected See of *Westminster*,) to which he was admitted on Mar. 25;<sup>1</sup> and the same year he was nominated the first Prebendary of the same, by the King's Charter of Erection, dated Sept. 10; — he was also installed Prebendary of *Sutton* in the Church of *Lincoln* June 11, 1542. — About this time he was likewise nominated to the Bishoprick of *Southwell* in *Nottinghamshire*, one of the new Sees which King *Henry VIII* intended to have erected, and to have endowed out of the revenues of the late dissolved Monasteries; but that design being laid aside, the King appointed him Dean of the Cathedral Church of *Osney* near *Oxford*, another See of that King's foundation; which being transferred in 1546 to *Christ-Church* in *Oxford*, he became the first Dean there. When King *Edward VI* came to the Crown, Dr. *Cox* was made his Almoner, and being in much favour at Court, the University of *Oxford* elected him their Chancellor. All this reign, he was very active in promoting the Reformation of Religion that was then carrying on; and was further preferred to a Canonry of *Windsor*, and to the Deanery of *Westminster*, into which last he was installed Oct. 22, 1549, and held it *in commendam* with that of *Christ-Church*, as he did most of his other preferments as long as King *Edward* lived. On the death of that Prince, and Succession of Queen *Mary*, he was one of the first that was committed to prison, having been suspected, it seems, of favouring the Succession of the Lady *Jane*; however, he was soon released: when finding the Government-measures all tended to the overthrow of what had been done towards a Reformation of Religion in K. *Edward's* time, and to the restoration of Popery; he thought it not safe staying in *England*, but fled, with many others, to *Frankfort* in *Germany*; where he continued in exile, during that reign of persecution, a zealous defender, and constant in the use of the *English* Liturgy. In the very beginning of Q. *Elizabeth's* reign, and before it was publicly known how she stood affected to Religion, Dr. *Cox* returned to *England*; and was admitted into the secret counsels of her Ministers, and appointed to confer with other learned men well-affected to the Reformation, on the proper means for restoring Religion, to revise the Common Prayer used in King *Edward's* time, and to prepare other matters against the sitting of the Parliament; which meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> of Jan. 1558-9, he was appointed to Preach before them; and during their session, was, with other learned men of the Protestants, engaged to hold a publick disputation with the Popish Bishops, before a great Assembly of both Houses, and the Lords of the Queen's Privy Council. Not long after, on the deprivation of Bp. *Thirlby*, for refusing the oath of Supremacy, Dr. *Cox* was nominated to the See of *Ely*, and was consecrated<sup>2</sup> Dec. 21 following, being then Sixty years old. He was generally esteemed a wise and learned Prelate, well acquainted with Church matters, and on that account was often consulted by the Queen and her Ministry, and his judgment much relied on. He has indeed been represented as one who had more regard

<sup>1</sup> Registrum Goodrich. fo. 36.    <sup>2</sup> Parker de Antiq. Eccles. Brit. p. 55.



gard to secular concerns, and to his private advantage, than to the true interest of his Church; and that merely on account of those Estates that were alienated from his See, on his first coming to it. But if that matter be set in a fair light, it must appear that he was in no wise blameable for it. In the first Parliament of Queen *Elizabeth* there was an Act<sup>1</sup> passed, That the Queen might, on the vacancy of any Archbishoprick or Bishoprick, reserve to herself any Lands belonging to them, giving the value in Tenths and impropriate Rectories in lieu of them. The ill use that might be made of that power, of taking away the Church-lands, but without enriching the Crown, was apprehended at that time. On that occasion we find Dr. *Cox* then Bp. Elect of *Ely* joining with Dr. *Parker* ABp. Elect of *Canterbury*, *Grindal* Bp. Elect of *London*, *Barlow* of *Chichester*, and *Scory* of *Hereford*, in an humble Address<sup>2</sup> to the Queen that she would be pleased to forbear such exchanges; and that they might not be thought unmindful of her great and necessary charges, (which was made one of the pretences for this Act,) they made her an offer, in the name of the Province of *Canterbury*, of 1000 Marks to be paid her yearly, in consideration of her forbearance thereof. The Queen, however, was persuaded to proceed roundly in this business; Commissioners were appointed to survey the several vacant Sees; and her Courtiers did not fail to make use of the opportunity of picking and choosing for themselves some of the best Estates belonging to them.<sup>3</sup>

INDEED the censure that has too frequently passed on many of the Bishops in that reign, for giving up the ancient possessions of their Churches, to the detriment of their Successors, seems in general to be without good foundation; for certainly it was not in their power to prevent it.

WITH respect to Bishop *Cox*'s Alienations, as they are called<sup>4</sup>, though he certainly parted with divers of the best Estates belonging to his Church, specified in the Patent of 4 *Eliz.*<sup>5</sup> yet surely it cannot with justice be said, that he was easily wrought upon to do it. The truth is, these Manors were not voluntarily given up, but were kept

<sup>1</sup> There is a Copy of this Act, in the Bp. of *Ely*'s Register *R.* — It was never printed in any Edition of the Statutes at large: but Bp. *Gibson* first inserted it in his Codex, &c. out of the Records of Parliament. pag. 676. <sup>2</sup> The original, signed by the A.Bp. and Bps. Elect, is still in the Library of Bene't Coll. Camb. Miscellanea iii. pag. 381. from whence I transcribed it, and shall give it a place in the Appendix. No. xxxii. <sup>3</sup> The Sees of *Canterbury*, *London*, *Hereford*, *Ely*, *Chichester*, *Salisbury*, *Lichfield* and *Coventry*, *Bath* and *Wells*, *Exeter* and *Norwich*, were doubtless stripped of some of their Manors and Lands in the year 1560; as appears from the Restitutions of the Temporalties of that year; (which may be seen in *Rymer's Fœdera*. vol. xv. pag. 574, 575, &c.) for there is the following clause of Exception inserted in each of them, viz. 'Exceptis omnibus Maneriis, terris, &c. prædicto Episcopatu dudum spectantibus & pertinentibus, modò in manus nostras, vigore cujusdam Actûs Anno Regni nostri primo inde nuper editi & provisi, electis et captis, ac in Scaccario nostro de recordo residentibus.' — And that most of the other Sees underwent the like scrutiny, when they happened to become vacant, appears likewise from the other Restitutions in that reign. <sup>4</sup> *Willis's Cathedr. Ely*, pag. 338, 360. <sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* pag. 338. — The Manors taken away from the Church of *Ely* at this time, were *East Dereham*, *Pulham*, *Bridgham*, the Hundred and Manor of *Mitford*, the Manors of *Terrington*, *Walpole*, and *West Walton* in *Norfolk*; *Brandon*, *Wetheringset*, *Ratlesden*, *Hecham*, *Hertest*, and *Berking*, in *Suffolk*; and *Totteringe* in the County of *Hertford*, valued together at 695 *l.* 11 *s.* 4 *d.* — In exchange for which, the Queen granted the Tenths of the Diocese amounting to 384 *l.* 14 *s.* 9 *d.* and the Impropriations of *Gilden Morden*, *Swafham Prior*, *Swafham Bulbeck*, *Stow cum Qui*, *Waterbeach*, *St. Giles's Cambridge*, *Comberton*, *Hinxton*, *Harleston*, and *Swavesey*, valued at 207 *l.* 10 *s.*

kept in the Queen's hands, by virtue of the abovementioned Act; and the Bishop was obliged to receive whatever the Queen's Commissioners thought fit to give in exchange, out of the Tenths of the Clergy, and Improvements then in possession of the Crown.

WHAT troubles this worthy Bishop met with, in the latter part of his life, for endeavouring to preserve the other possessions of his Church entire to his Successors; by withstanding the unreasonable solicitations of some great persons at Court, who had got the Queen herself to interpose her Letters in their behalf, for him to give up *Ely-House* in *Holbourn*, and *Somerſham* Manor and Lands, one of the best Manors of his See; — may be seen in *Strype's Annals of the Reformation*<sup>1</sup>. — The cruel usage he underwent, and all for the preserving the revenues of his Bishoprick, made him very desirous of resigning his See<sup>2</sup>, and retiring from the world: and he oftentimes solicited the Queen's leave so to do; and in the month of February 1580, he seems to have obtained her consent to resign: but whatever was the impediment, he did not live to see that business fully compleated; so that he died Bishop of *Ely* July 22, 1581. He was buried in the Presbytery of his Cathedral Church, on the South side of Bishop *Goodrich*, under a Marble, having his Effigies thereon in brass, but it has long since been taken away; and Bishop *Goodwin*<sup>3</sup> informs us, there was only a part of the Inscription remaining on it in his time, which was this; <sup>4</sup>

### XXXV. MARTIN HETON, D.D. 1600.

THE See of *Ely* continued vacant, from the death of Bishop *Cox*, above eighteen years<sup>5</sup>; during which time Queen *Elizabeth* received the whole profits; and the administration thereof in spiritual matters, was supplied by Commissioners appointed by the Archbishop of *Canterbury*; the Dean of *Ely* being generally one nominated in the Commission. What was the Queen's inducement at last, to suffer it to go out of her hands, does not fully appear: however, about the end of the year 1599, she sent down her *Conge d'Elire* to the Dean and Chapter of *Ely*, to proceed to an election of a new Bishop, nominating MARTIN HETON D.D. Dean of *Winchester*, to be by them elected Bishop: who was accordingly elected Dec. 28, 1599, Confirmed by the Archbishop of *Canterbury* Feb. 1, and Consecrated on Sunday Feb. 3, following.

THIS Prelate was the Son of *George Heton*, Esq; of *Heton-Hall* in the Parish of *Dean* in *Lancashire* the ancient Seat of the Family, and his Mother was *Jobanna*  
Daughter

<sup>1</sup> Vol. ii. pag. 337, 360, 368, 488, 528, 579, 658. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. pag. 488, 528, 580, 581, 582, 583.  
<sup>3</sup> De Præful. Angl. pag. 274.

<sup>4</sup> ' Vita caduca vale, salveto vita perennis;

' Corpus terra tegit, Spiritus alta petit.

' In terra Christi Gallus Christum resonabam,

' Da, Christe, in cœlis te sine fine sonem.'

<sup>5</sup> The true reasons for keeping the See of *Ely* so long vacant, will appear by some curious Anecdotes found among the Harleian MSS. N° 6850. — which the reader may see in the Appendix, N° xxxiii.



Daughter of Sir *Martin Bowes* Lord Mayor of *London*, in 1545. The first part of his education was at *Westminster School*; whence he was sent to *Oxford* in 1571, and became Student, and afterwards in 1582, Canon of *Christ Church*; he served the office of Vicechancellor of that University in 1588; the next year was preferred to the Deanery of *Winchester*; and from that Dignity was further promoted, as before observed, to the See of *Ely*.

It appears by a Deed indented, Dated June 10, 42 *Eliz.* [A.D. 1600,] and inrolled in Chancery, that divers antient Manors and Estates<sup>1</sup> of the clear yearly value of 1132*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*  $\frac{1}{4}$  and half farthing, were then alienated from the See of *Ely*; and by this Bishop, with the consent of the Dean and Chapter, conveyed to the Queen, her Heirs and Successors for ever: And in recompense and satisfaction for the same, the Queen granted and conveyed to the Bishop, and his Successors certain other estates, consisting chiefly of Parsonages impropriate, and other Hereditaments to the amount of 1144*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*  $\frac{1}{2}$  yearly value. The Character of this Bishop has been impeached, and his Memory severely treated, on account of these alienations, Mr. *Willis* terms them sacrilegious alienations<sup>2</sup>, and adds that Bp. *Heton* was a greater Alienator than his predecessor Bp. *Cox*<sup>3</sup>. Had these alienations been the voluntary acts of those Bishops, the censure, it must be owned, had been justly laid. But, as the Law then stood, the Queen had it wholly in her power to make those exchanges; and might, I conceive, have taken to herself, had she so pleased, all the Estates of all the Bishopricks in *England*, by way of exchange, without asking the consent of the Bishops. These exchanges, it is confessed, were generally made to the disadvantage of the Bishopricks; but the Parliament<sup>4</sup> had given the Queen, in the first year of her reign, an unprecedented and enormous power over them; and in the exercise of that power, she acted throughout her long reign, with the utmost impartiality; for there was not a Bishoprick in the Kingdom, (except perhaps *Bristol*, *Glocester*, *Oxford*, and *Peterborough*, which had nothing to spare;) from which the Queen did not, at one time or other, when they happened to be vacant, take to herself a considerable part, and generally speaking, the best and most valuable part of their possessions; giving them in exchange, as she might legally do, either the Tenths of the Clergy, or Rectories impropriate. — Well was it for the succeeding Bishops, that this extraordinary power in the Crown was restrained by an Act<sup>5</sup> passed soon after! But it is hard that all the Bishops of that reign should be blamed, for suffering those exchanges to be made, when it was out of their power to prevent it.

IN

<sup>1</sup> The Manor and Soke of Somersham with the Demesne Lands, the Park, Meadows, Pastures, and Free-Chases thereto belonging, the Manors of Fenton, Bluntitham, Colne, Erith and Pidley in the County of Huntingdon: The Manor of Fen-Ditton, the Mill at Sturbridge, the Water-Mills in the Town of Cambridge, Houell's Grange, Caldrey's Grange, Dereham Grange, the Site of the late Priory of Swafham with all the Lands and Pastures thereto belonging, a Tenement with all the Lands, Meadows, &c. in Ditton Valence alias Wood-Ditton, the Manors of Balsam, Triplow, Granden, Hardwicke, Shelford, in the County of Cambridge: The Manors of Stretham, Wilberton, Haddenham, Littleport, Doddington with Benwick and March, in the Isle of Ely: The Manors of Feltwell and Norwold in Norfolk; of Glemsford and Bramford, and a Mesluage in Mildenhall called Lambholme, in Suffolk: The Manors of Imphy Hall, Ratingdon, Hadstock, and Littlebury in Essex; and of Little Hadham and Kelsul in Hertfordshire. <sup>2</sup> Survey of Ely Cath. p. 361. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. p. 340. <sup>4</sup> Gibson's Codex, &c. p. 676. <sup>5</sup> 1 Jac. cap. 3.

IN regard to Bishop *Heton*, I do not find that he was in any wise blameable on that account; but was, as far as I am able to discover, in all respects a very worthy and deserving man. The general character which he maintained, during the nine years and six months he sat Bishop of *Ely*, was that of a pious, hospitable Bishop, and famous for his good Preaching.

HE died at *Mildenhall* in *Suffolk* July 14, 1609, and was buried in the South Isle of the Presbytery of his Cathedral Church; where his two Daughters, one of them married to Sir *Robert Filmer* of *Sutton* in *Kent*, Bart. the other to Sir *Edward Fish* of *Bedfordshire*, Bart. erected a very elegant Monument to his memory, with his Effigies thereon in Alabaſter, which ſuffered, it is ſaid, in the time of the great Rebellion, the Hands and Noſe being broken, but the reſt of it remains entire with the underwritten Inſcription<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> M. S.

Martinus Heton, ex antiqua Hetonorum Familia in Agro Lancaſtrenſi oriundus, Filius Georgii Heton Armigeri et Johannæ ejus Uxoris, Filiæ Martini Bowes Equitis Aurati; a qua parturiente et expirante Deo et Eccleſiæ Reformatæ dicatus eſt. Ab Academia Oxoniienſi ad omnes Scholaſticos Gradus et Honores evectus; ibique in Æde Chriſti unus octo Canonicorum conſtitutus, a Sereniſſima Regina Elizabetha ad Decanatum Wintoniæ, annum jam agens trigefimum ſextum, promotus; Hujus Epiſcopatus ultimo locum ac ſedem obtinuit. Conſecratus Feb. 3. A.D. 1599, per decem annos plus minus, tum pie, tum publice, tum munifice, hic ſe geſſit in Cathedra, ut qui communi voluntatum conſenſu et Amores et Officia erga ſe excitaffet, non ſine dolore, non ſine duplici damno abreptus eſſe videatur. Obiit Julii 14, A.D. 1609, Ætatis ſuæ 57.

Martinus Tumulo hoc Elienſis Præſul Hetonus,

Parte ſui ſola deteriore jacet,

Parte ſui meliore procul tellure receſſit;

Clauditur hæc Cœlo, conditur illa Solo.

Quo nec Vir melior, nec amantior alter Honeſti,

Sanctior, integrior, candidiorve fuit.

Quæ morum dulcedo inerat! quam nobile pectus!

Quæ probitas ori! quæ pietas animo!

Quantum quantula terra tegit, quam dotibus amplum,

Doctrina, ingenio, religione Virum!

Qua terris ergo ſupereſt, bonus et Pater et Vir

Audit: fama viri poſthuma veridica eſt.

ſcripſit Gulielmus Gager LL.D. Cancellarius hujus Diœceſeos.

Hoc etiam incidam ſupremo in marmore Carmen,

Et repetat verum poſthuma fama decus.

Ah! qui te celebrat non eſt, O Hetone, Poeta;

Qui canit has laudes, omnia vera canit.

Mens bona, fama, fides, et ſancti candor honeſti,

Religio, pietas priſca, ſerenus honor.

Magna quidem, vacuis ſed inania nomina ſaxis.

Digna prope et tumulo mortua verba ſuo:

Cuncta ſed hac vixere anima. tunc luce paluſtri

Nec frigens Elis, nec lare mœſta ſedens,

Dum Paſtor gregibus panem diviſit utrumque,

In prædam ceſſit temporis ipſe cibus.

Celſæ at mentis honos anguſto carcere claudi

Non tulit Urbs, animi ſtant Monumenta Viro.

Deſlevit Georgius Heton, Cantab. Theolog. Bacalaur. Nepos Mœſtiſſimus.



## XXXVI. LANCELOT ANDREWS, D.D. 1609.

**B**ISHOP of *Chichester*, was elected to this See Sept. 22, 1609. This most learned and excellent Prelate, was born in the Parish of *All-hallows Berking* in *London*; he received the first part of his education in *Merchant-Taylors* School; and was thence sent to *Pembroke Hall Cambridge*, where he was chosen Fellow in 1576. After his entering into Holy Orders, he attended *Henry* Earl of *Huntingdon* Lord President of the Council in the *North*, and was by him employed chiefly in Preaching, and frequent conferences with Recusants; meeting with great success in converting some Priests and many of the Laity in those parts; he became Chaplain to Sir *Francis Walsingham* Secretary to the Queen, and by his means<sup>1</sup> was preferred to a Prebend in the Collegiate Church of *Southwell*, and made Prebendary of *St. Pancras* and Residentiary of *St. Paul's London*. He was also Vicar of *St. Giles's* without *Cripplegate*; and became Master of *Pembroke Hall* in 1589; and about that time was Chaplain to Archbishop *Whitgift*. In the year 1593<sup>2</sup>, the Queen promoted him to a Prebendal Stall in *St. Peter's Westminster*; and in 1601, made him Dean of that Church. In 1605, he resigned his Mastership, Deanery, and other Church-preferments, on being made Bishop of *Chichester*, to which he was consecrated Nov. 3, and the day after appointed Lord Almoner<sup>3</sup> to King *James I*: he was translated to *Ely* in 1609, and from thence to *Winchester* in the beginning of the year 1619; and was moreover Prelate of the most noble Order of the Garter, Dean of the King's Chapel, and Privy Counsellor of *England* and *Scotland*. He died at *Winchester-House* in *Southwark*, Sept. 21, 1626, in the 71 year of his age, and was there buried in the Parish Church of *St. Saviour*, where a stately Monument was erected to his memory with an Inscription<sup>4</sup> thereon, setting forth his preferments in the Church and State, with high encomiums on him; and not beyond his real merits; for he was indeed a person of extraordinary endowments, very pious and charitable, of a most blameless life, an eminent Preacher, (96 of his Sermons are still extant,) of universal learning, and one of those who were principally concerned in the new Translation of the Bible. Of his benefactions and charitable acts, I meet with, among others, the following particulars<sup>5</sup>: He obtained Licence of Mortmain of 80 *l.* a year for *Pembroke-Hall*, whilst he was Master; gave 1000 *l.* for founding two Fellowships there; the Patronage of *Rawerth* in *Essex*, (his own patrimony;) some Plate, and 370 Books to the Library. When Residentiary of *St. Paul's*, he built the House in *Creed-Lane*, belonging to his Prebend, having recovered it to the Church: repaired the Dean's Lodgings in *Westminster*: the Palace at *Chichester*, and the House at *Aldingbourn*: he also laid out 2000 *l.* in repairing *Ely-House* in *Helbourn*, *Ely-Palace*, *Downham Manor* and *Wisleach-Castle*;—as much at *Winchester*, *Farnham* and *Waltham*: In a word, it appears by his Will, that he had applied to charitable uses no less than 6326 *l.*; besides his private alms, which within the six last years of his life only, amounted to 1300 *l.*

## XXXVII.

<sup>1</sup> Museum Britan. MS. Harleian. N<sup>o</sup> 6994. Sect. 96.      <sup>2</sup> Widmore's Hist. of Westm. Abby. p. 144.      <sup>3</sup> Rymer's Fœd. v. xvi. p. 636.      <sup>4</sup> Which may be seen in Dr. Richardson's Continuation of Godwin de Præful. Angl. p. 241.      <sup>5</sup> Parker's Σκελετος Cantabr. inter Custodes Aulae Pemb. Museum Britan. Harleian Collections. MS. N<sup>o</sup> 7033. fo. 256. viz. Vol. vi. of Mr. T. Baker's Collections.

## XXXVII. NICHOLAS FELTON, D.D. 1619.

ON the translation of Bishop *Andrews* from *Ely* to *Winchester*, Dr. NICHOLAS FELTON Bishop of *Bristol* was translated to *Ely* March 11, and installed in his Cathedral Church by proxy March 31, 1619.—He was born at *Yarmouth* in *Norfolk*, and admitted of *Pembroke-Hall* in *Cambridge*, of which College he was chosen Fellow Nov. 27, 1583<sup>1</sup>. Archbishop *Whitgift* collated him to the Rectory of *St. Mary-le-Bow*, Jan. 17, 1595-6, being then B.D; and he was sometime also Rector of *St. Antholin's*, *London*. — He was elected Master of *Pembroke-Hall* June 29, 1616; admitted Rector of *Easton-Magna*<sup>2</sup> in *Essex*, Oct. 23, the same year; and collated to a Prebend<sup>3</sup> in *St. Paul's*, (being then D.D.) Mar. 4. following. In the year 1617, he was promoted to the See of *Bristol*, to which he was consecrated Dec. 14: the next year he resigned his Mastership, and was nominated<sup>4</sup> to the Bishoprick of *Coventry* and *Lichfield*; but was translated to *Ely*, Mar. 11, 1618-9, as before mentioned. He died Oct. 5, 1626, in the 63<sup>d</sup> year of his Age; and was buried under the Communion Table in *St. Antholin's Church London*; but without any Memorial or Inscription. He was a very pious, learned and judicious Man<sup>5</sup>; and one of those who were employed by King *James I*, in the New Translation of the Bible<sup>6</sup>.

## XXXVIII. JOHN BUCKERIDGE, D.D. 1628.

AFTER the See of *Ely* had continued vacant more than a year and a half, JOHN BUCKERIDGE, D.D. Bishop of *Rocheſter* was elected Bishop of *Ely*, April 17, 1628. He was Son of *William Buckeridge*, by *Elizabeth* his Wife, Daughter of *Thomas Keblewhyte* of *Bafilden* in *Berks*, Son of *John Keblewhyte*, Uncle to Sir *Thomas White* Founder of *St. John's College* in *Oxford*<sup>7</sup>; educated in *Merchant-Taylors School*, and thence sent to *St. John's College* aforeſaid in 1578, where he was chosen Fellow, and proceeded, through other Degrees, to D.D. in the latter end of 1596. After leaving the University, he became Chaplain to *Robert Earl of Eſſex*, and was Rector of *North-Fambridge* in *Eſſex*, and of *North-Kilworth* in *Leiceſtershire*, and was afterwards one of Archbishop *Whitgift's* Chaplains, and made Prebendary of *Hereford* and of *Rocheſter*. In 1604, he was preferred to the Archdeaconry of *Northampton*; and the ſame year Nov. 5, was preſented by King *James* to the Vicarage of *St. Giles's Cripplegate*, vacant by the promotion of Dr. *Andrews* to the See of *Chicheſter*; about which time he was Chaplain to the King; was elected Preſident of *St. John's College* in *Oxford* 1605; and installed Canon of *Windſor* Apr. 15, 1606. His eminent abilities in the pulpit were greatly eſteemed at Court; inſomuch that he was chosen to be one of the Four, (Dr. *Andrews* Biſhop of *Chicheſter*, Dr. *Barlow* of *Rocheſter*, and Dr. *John King* Dean of *Chriſt-Church, Oxford*, being the other three,) who were appointed to preach before the King at *Hampton-Court* in Sept. 1606, in order to bring the Two *Melvins* and other Preſbyterians of *Scotland*, to a right underſtanding of

<sup>1</sup> Muſæum Britan. MS. Harleian. N<sup>o</sup> 7033. fo. 296. <sup>2</sup> Newcourt's Repert. v. i. p. 136. <sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Parker's Σκελετος Cantabr. <sup>5</sup> There is an excellent Picture of this Biſhop, given to the late Biſhop Gooch, by the Rev. Mr. Cole of Milton, Cambridgſhire, late of King's College; to be hung up in the Gallery of the Palace at Ely, and to belong to it for ever. <sup>6</sup> Godwin de Præſul. Angl. — pag. 275.

<sup>7</sup> Newcourt's Repert. v. i. p. 357.



of the Church of *England*<sup>1</sup>. In the year 1611, he was promoted to the See of *Rochester*, to which he was consecrated on June 9. Afterwards by the interest of his sometime Pupil Dr. *Laud*, then Bishop of *Bath* and *Wells*, he was translated to *Ely* in 1628; where having sat a little more than three years, he died on May 23, 1631, and on the 31<sup>st</sup> of the same Month, was buried in the Parish-Church of *Bromley* in *Kent*, without any memorial; leaving behind him the Character of a very pious, learned and worthy Bishop. He was succeeded by

### XXXIX. FRANCIS WHITE, D.D. 1631.

**B**ISHOP of *Norwich*, who was elected to this See of *Ely*, Nov. 15; had the Royal Assent Nov. 29, 1631; and restitution of the Temporalities, Feb. 23, following<sup>2</sup>. He was born at *St. Neots* in *Huntingdonshire*, and educated in *Caius* College in *Cambridge*. After leaving the University, he was presented to the Rectory of *Broughton-Astley* in the County of *Leicester*, by Lord *Grey* of *Groby*<sup>3</sup>; he afterwards became Rector of *St. Peter's Cornhill, London*; and was promoted by the King to the Deanery of *Carlisle*, being installed there Oct. 15, 1622. He was also appointed Senior Dean of *Sion College, London*, by the Charter of Foundation, dated Mar. 13, 1 Charles I.<sup>4</sup> Nov. 3, following, he was consecrated Bishop of *Carlisle*; and was made Lord Almoner to the King: two years after was translated to *Norwich*; and thence in 1631, to *Ely*; where having been Bishop Six years and about three months, he died in Feb. 1637-8, at his Palace in *Holbourn*, and was buried with great solemnity in *St. Paul's Cathedral, London*; but without any memorial. He was generally accounted a Man of great learning, a good Preacher, and an excellent Disputant and Polemical Writer.

### XL. MATTHEW WREN, D.D. 1638.

**E**LDEST Son of *Francis Wren*, Citizen and Mercer of *London*, was born in the Parish of *St. Peter-Cheap, London*, Dec. 23, 1585; admitted a Student in *Pembroke-Hall, Cambridge*, June 23, 1601; and elected Fellow of the same in Nov. 1605. He became Chaplain to *Lancelot Andrews*, Bishop of *Ely*, (who collated him, in 1615 to the Rectory of *Teversham* near *Cambridge*;) and was afterwards nominated one of the Chaplains in ordinary to King *James I*; and appointed to attend Prince *Charles* in that capacity, in his journey into *Spain*, on that memorable occasion of the *Spanish Match*. Soon after his return with the Prince, who arrived at *Portsmouth*, Oct. 5, 1623, he was installed Canon of *Winchester*; and in May following presented to the Rectory of *Bingham* in *Nottinghamshire*; was made Master of *Peter-house, Cambridge*, July 26, 1625; Dean of *Windsor*, and Register of the Garter in 1628; and the same year elected Vice-Chancellor of *Cambridge*. He attended King *Charles I*, on his going to *Scotland* in 1633, and soon after his return was made Clerk of the Closet. His

next

<sup>1</sup> Newcourt Ibid. <sup>2</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. xix. p. 322, 334. <sup>3</sup> MS. Notes of the Bishops of Ely. <sup>4</sup> A.D. 1625-6. — Pat. 1. Car. I. Rymer's Fœd. v. xviii. p. 320. — *Sion College* was founded by Thomas White, S. T. P. Vicar of *St. Dunstan's* in the West, who by his Will, bearing Date A.D. 1623, gave 3000*l.* for that purpose. Whether our Bishop was related to the Founder, I know not.

next advancement was to the See of *Hereford*, of which he was consecrated Bishop, Mar. 8, 1635; and in the same year on Dec. 5, translated to *Norwich*; made Dean of the King's Chapel Mar. 7, following; and at length translated to *Ely*, Apr. 24, 1638.

HE was a person of great abilities and learning, of unshaken loyalty to his Prince, and a zealous advocate for promoting order and discipline in the Church; which he endeavoured, (in concert with Archbishop *Laud*,) to raise to a higher pitch than the licentiousness of the times would permit; and thereby created to himself many enemies. On the breaking out of the great Rebellion in 1641, the Bishops having been by force excluded from the House of Lords; he joined with several other of his Brethren, in a protest<sup>1</sup> against all proceedings of the House during their exclusion; whereupon they were all charged with High Treason, and on Dec. 30, 1641, committed to the Tower: but being set at liberty May 6, 1642;<sup>2</sup> our Bishop retired to his Palace of *Downham* near *Ely*; and was there arrested again Aug. 30, following, hurried up to *London*, and on Sept. 1, again committed to the Tower;<sup>3</sup> where he continued under confinement near eighteen years, with great patience, resolution, and firmness of mind.<sup>4</sup> Having at length outlived the Rebellion, he was freed from his long imprisonment on March 17, preceeding the King's Restoration May 29, 1660: and in testimony of his thankfulness to God, for his own deliverance, and the happy turn of Publick affairs, he built at his own charge<sup>5</sup>, that elegant Chapel of *Pembroke-Hall*, where he had been educated; endowed it with the Manor of *Hardwicke* in *Cambridgeshire*; and dedicated it himself on the Feast of St. *Matthew* Sept. 21, 1665; and by his Will left all the Plate richly gilt, and the whole furniture of his Episcopal Chapel, which was very sumptuous, for the use of it for ever. He died Apr. 24, 1667, in the 82<sup>d</sup> year of his Age, and was interred according to his own appointment, in a Vault which he had caused to be built for that purpose, under the Communion Table of the new-built Chapel of *Pembroke-Hall*, without any further memorial than the initial Letters of his Name, and date of his Death, on his Coffin.

## XLI. BENJAMIN LANEY, D.D. 1667.

BISHOP of *Lincoln* was thence translated to *Ely* June 12, 1667. He was born at *Ipswich* in *Suffolk*, and admitted first a Student in *Christ's College Cambridge*; but removed thence to *Pembroke-Hall*, of which he was elected Fellow Oct. 16, 1618, being then M.A. and proceeded to the Degree of B.D. in 1622. In the year 1625, he had leave of absence for two years, being about to set out on his travels, as it should seem, in the King's service; for the College received Letters from the Secretary of State, requiring in His Majesty's Name, that all profits be reserved to Mr. *Laney*, during his absence. He became afterwards Rector of *Buriton* in *Hampshire*; was elected Master of *Pembroke-Hall*, Dec. 25, 1630; installed Prebendary of *Winchester*

July

<sup>1</sup> Wilkins's Concil. Mag. Brit. vol. iv. p. 553. <sup>2</sup> From his Diary lately published in a Book entitled *Parentalia*; or Memoirs of the Family of the Wrens: by Stephen Wren, Esq; <sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> A large volume in folio of Theological Meditations, all written with his own hand during his imprisonment, which he entitled τῶν ἁγίων γραφῶν Ἀναμνηστικοὶ was remaining at the time of his death: but whether any part of them were afterwards printed, among his other Works, I know not. — He regularly Instituted and Collated to all Preferments in his Diocese, when he was confined in the Tower; though without the power of giving possession. <sup>5</sup> It cost him near 4000 *l.* in building.



July 31, 1631; elected Vicechancellor in 1632; and was made Chaplain in ordinary to King *Charles I*, who promoted him to a Prebend of *Westminster*, in June 1639. But he lost all his Church-preferments, on account of his loyalty; and was turned out of his Mastership Mar. 13, 1644, by the Earl of *Manchester* the Parliament's Visitor, for refusing the Covenant. He attended his Royal Master King *Charles I*, as one of his Chaplains, at the Treaty of *Uxbridge*; and after his death, became Chaplain to King *Charles II*, and waited on him several years in his exile. Upon His Majesty's happy Return, he was reinstated in his Headship; and made Dean of *Rocheſter* in July 1660; promoted to the See of *Peterborough* in the month of *December* following; whence he was translated to *Lincoln* Apr. 2, 1663; and at length to *Ely* in 1667.

HE was a Person of a generous Spirit, and spent the chief of his fortunes in works of Piety, Munificence, and Charity. He rebuilt great part of his Episcopal Palace at *Ely*, which was much ruined and decayed in the late times of usurpation; and by his Will gave 500*l.* to *Pembroke-Hall*; and left a considerable estate at *Soham*, with the remainder of his personal effects, (after his Debts and Legacies paid,) in the hands of Trustees, for the use of the Poor inhabitants of *Ely* and *Soham*, for putting out Children Apprentices. He died on Jan. 24, 1674-5, and was buried in the South Isle of the Presbytery in his Cathedral Church, where may be seen a handsome Mural Monument<sup>1</sup> erected to his memory, with an Inscription, as below.<sup>2</sup>

## XLII. PETER GUNNING, D.D. 1675.

**B**ISHOP of *Chicheſter*, was thence translated to *Ely*. He was the Son of Mr. *Peter Gunning* Vicar of *Hoo* in *Kent*, educated at the King's School in *Canterbury*, and admitted a Student of *Clare-Hall* in *Cambridge*; of which Society he was elected Fellow, about the year 1633. Having taken the Degree of M.A. and entered into Holy Orders; he had the Curacy of St. *Mary's* the *Less* in *Cambridge*, given him by the Master and Fellows of *Peter-House*. He became an eminent Preacher, and as such was licensed by the University in 1641; where, upon the breaking out of the Rebellion, he soon distinguished himself by his zeal in the cause of the King, and defence of the Church;<sup>3</sup> particularly, 'by protesting publicly against the *Faction*, 'when most formidable, and urging the University to publish a formal Protestation 'against the *Rebellious League*,' in a Sermon at St. *Mary's*.<sup>4</sup> And afterwards, being on a visit to his Mother in *Kent*; he preached two Sermons in the neighbourhood of *Tunbridge*, exhorting his audience to a charitable contribution for the King's forces in those parts. Having by this conduct drawn upon himself the resentment of the prevailing Powers, he was forced for a time to abscond; but was taken, and imprisoned:

<sup>1</sup> Plate xxvii. <sup>2</sup> "P. M. Reverendi in Christo Patris BENJAMINI hujus Ecclesiæ Episcopi, a clarâ Laneiorum gente in agro Suffolciensi oriundi. In cujus Elogio grandiloqua fama didicit non mentiri. Nusquam melius quam in hoc Præsule habitavit Anima, nusquam melior; Mente Corporis dotes commendante, Mentis Corpore. Hic facundia amabilis, acumine terribilis, eruditione auctissimus, et meruit palmam et templum. Hunc Monarchiæ et Hierarchiæ ruinæ feriebant impavidum; hunc earundem Restauratio ad Thronum Petroburgensem, Lincolnensem, Eliensem, extulit horrentem; et fidissimum Filium reddidit ter dignum Patrem. Tandem gravis annis, et æternitati maturus, excessit emeritus Viator; et quod in terris indignabatur, factus est in Cœlis Comprehensor. Denatus Jan. 24, A. D. 1674; Ætatis autem suæ 84; Tumulo prope ab hoc pariete condebatur Feb. 10."

<sup>3</sup> *Maiters's Hist. of Bene't Coll. Camb.* p. 155. <sup>4</sup> *Dr. Gower's Sermons on his Death*, p. 17.

soned: however, by some means or other, he obtained his liberty; and was then summoned to *Cambridge*, to take the Covenant; which he absolutely refused to do, and was thereupon deprived of his Fellowship.<sup>1</sup> This occasioned his leaving the University; having first, with the assistance of several of his Friends, drawn up a spirited and well-wrote Treatise against the Covenant; which was soon after published. He then retired to *Oxford*, and was there incorporated M.A.; was made one of the Chaplains of *New-College*, and Curate of *Cassington*, a small Village near *Oxford*; where he officiated two years, and in the mean while preached occasionally before the Court then at *Oxford*; and was admitted to the Degree of B.D. the day before the surrender of that place to the Parliament. Being thus obliged to quit that University, he became Tutor to Lord *Hatton*, and to Sir *Francis Compton*; and afterwards Chaplain to Sir *Robert Shirley*, who out of regard to his great worth and learning, settled on him a Pension of 100*l.* a year for his life: but having the misfortune to lose this his great Friend and Patron, (who for his Loyalty was committed to the Tower, and there died;) he then fixed at *London*, and constantly made use of the *English* Liturgy in the Chapel at *Exeter-House*; and in his discourses there from the Pulpit; and in his publick and frequent Disputations with all kinds of Sectaries, in their own Congregations, with great courage maintained and defended the cause of the Church of *England*; though he was often sent for, and reprov'd for it by the Protector himself.<sup>2</sup>

ON the Restoration, he was not only restored to his Fellowship; but also was one of the first, who were admitted to the Degree of D.D. by Mandate from the King, dated June 21, 1660; the next month he was made Prebendary of *Canterbury*, and in December admitted to the Rectory of *Cottesmore* in *Rutlandshire*, and was about that time also Rector of *Stoke-Bruern* in the County of *Northampton*. In February following, on the King's recommendation, he succeeded to the Mastership of *Corpus-Christi* College in *Cambridge*, and to the Lady *Margaret's* Professorship, both vacant by the death of Dr. *Love* Dean of *Ely*: but he soon quitted them, being appointed *Regius* Professor in Divinity, and Master of *St. John's* College, in the room of Dr. *Tuckney*, who had been obliged to resign, on a Pension of 100*l.* a year, to be paid by his Successor. In the beginning of the year 1670, he was promoted to the See of *Chichester*, being consecrated Mar. 6; and after five years, was translated to *Ely*, being confirmed Bishop thereof Mar. 4, 1674-5: And having continued Bishop of this Diocese nine years and four months, he died on July 6, 1684; and was buried in the South-Isle of the Presbytery, near his Predecessor Bishop *Lancy*; where there is a very handsome Monument<sup>3</sup> erected to his Memory, with his Effigies thereon in Marble, and the Inscription referred to below.<sup>4</sup>

HE

<sup>1</sup> Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy. Part. ii. p. 142.    <sup>2</sup> Ibid.    <sup>3</sup> Plate XXVIII.

<sup>4</sup> "M. S. Reverendi admodum in Christo Patris ac Domini PETRI GUNNING Cantiani, e Scholâ Cantuariensi, Aulæ Clarenſis apud Cantabr. Alumni et Socii; Col. Corporis Christi, et Sti Johannis Evang. Præſecti; Dominæ Margaretæ et Regii Professoris; Eccles. Cantuariensis Canonici; Cicestrenſis et Eliensis Episcopi. Juxta hoc Marmor quiescit Exemplar Sanctitatis, Doctrinæ Abyssus, Episcopus  
C c 2  
fiquis



HE was reckoned one of the most learned Prelates of his time, and was moreover of a very charitable disposition, and a liberal Benefactor to all places he had any relation to. Besides his constant acts of charity and generosity in his life-time, in relieving the poor, supporting many Scholars at the University, and adding to the maintenance of poor Vicars in the Sees of *Chichester* and *Ely*; he gave 500*l.* towards building *St. Paul's London*; 200*l.* to the rebuilding *Clare-Hall*, where he had been Fellow, and by his Will left them 300*l.* towards a new Chapel; to *St. John's College*, where he had been Master, he bequeathed his Library, (valued at 500*l.*) and 600*l.* in Money.<sup>1</sup> Some time before his death, he had an intention of making a new Choir to his Cathedral Church of *Ely* at his own expense; but that design not taking effect, he left by his Will 300*l.* for new paving the Choir: and by a Codicil to his Will, dated Sept. 11, 1683, he ordered that "after all Legacies and Payments discharged, the residue should be employed for the present relief of poor Vicars within the County of *Cambridge* and *Isle of Ely*, where the Improvements are in the Bishop."

#### XLIII. FRANCIS TURNER, D.D. 1684.

WAS the Son of Dr. *Thomas Turner* Dean of *Canterbury*, and Canon Residentiary of *St. Paul's London*; educated at *Winchester School*, and thence elected Fellow of *New-College* in *Oxford*; where he took the Degrees in Arts; that of Bachelor Apr. 14, 1659, and that of Master in the beginning of the year 1663. He commenced B.D. and D.D. July 6, 1669; and in December following was collated to the Prebend of *Sneating* in *St. Paul's London*.<sup>2</sup> On the promotion of Dr. *Gunning* to the See of *Chichester*, he succeeded him in the Mastership of *St. John's College* in *Cambridge* Apr. 11, 1670. In 1683, he was made Dean of *Windſor*; and the same year, was promoted to the See of *Rocheſter*, being consecrated on Nov. 11; and the next year Aug. 23, was translated hither. Though he owed most of these preferments to the influence of the Duke of *York*,<sup>3</sup> afterwards King *James II*; yet, on the accession of that Prince to the Throne, as soon as he perceived the violent measures that were pursued in that reign, and the open attempts to introduce Popery and Arbitrary power; he opposed them to the utmost. He was one of the six Bishops, who joined Archbishop *Sancreft* on May 18, 1688, in subscribing and presenting a Petition to the King, setting forth their reasons, why they could not comply with his commands, in causing his Majesty's Declaration for Liberty of Conscience to be read in their Churches. This Petition being styled by the Court, A seditious Libel against His Majesty and his Government, the Bishops were all called before the Privy Council; and refusing to enter into recognizances, to appear in the Court of the King's-Bench,

*siquis olim Apostolicus; exulans ab Academia, Ecclesiam Anglicanam inter Schismaticorum furias, coram ipſo Cromwello, Concionibus, Disputationibus publice aſſeruit, tantum non ſolus ſuſtinuit, vindicavit. At cum Deus et Rex redux nobis otium feciſſet, hic tamen indefeſſus, ſtudiis, vigilis, precibus, jejunis totus incubuit; Fidelibus erudiendis, refutandis Hæreticis, vitam egit Cœleſtem, Anglicam; bonis Eccleſiæ legatis Chriſtum Hæredem ſcripſit; et Virtutibus diu optatum rapuit Cœlum, Jul. 6, A.D. 1684, Ætatis ſuæ 71."*

<sup>1</sup> *Masters's Hiſt. of Bene't Coll. Cambr.* p. 159. <sup>2</sup> *Newcourt's Repert.* vol. i. p. 212. <sup>3</sup> *Continuatio Godwini, de Præſul. Angl. per Rev. Virum D. Richardſon,* p. 277, 540.

Bench, to answer the misdemeanor in framing and presenting the said Petition; were on June 8, committed to the Tower: on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the same Month, they were brought by *Habeas-Corpus* to the King's-Bench Bar, where pleading *Not Guilty* to the Information against them, they were admitted to Bail; and on the 29<sup>th</sup> came upon their Tryals in *Westminster-Hall*, and the next morning were acquitted, to the great joy of the Nation. However, when King *William* and Queen *Mary* were settled on the Throne, our Bishop, among many others of his Brethren and the Clergy, refused to own the established Government, out of a conscientious regard to the Allegiance he had sworn to King *James II*; and refusing to take the Oaths required by an Act of Parliament made April 24, 1689, was by virtue of that Act suspended from his Office, and about the beginning of the following year, deprived of his Bishoprick. After which he lived the rest of his days in retirement; and dying Nov. 2, 1700, was buried in the Chancel of the Parochial Church of *Therfield* in *Hertfordshire*, (where he had been Rector,) in a Vault formerly made for the interment of his Wife; to whose memory he had erected a handsome Monument; and had at a great expense new-paved the Chancel with Free-stone, the part about the Altar with Marble; wainscotted the walls, erected Seats after the form of a Choir, and cieled it with Fret-work;<sup>1</sup> but without any other Memorial of himself, than this one word ingraved on a stone over the Vault, EXPERGISCAR.

#### XLIV. SYMON PATRICK, D.D. 1691.

WAS translated from the See of *Chichester*, to this of *Ely*, July 2, 1691.<sup>2</sup> This very pious and learned Prelate was born at *Gainsborough* in *Lincolnshire*, Sept. 8, 1626; and admitted a Student of *Queen's College* in *Cambridge*, June 25, 1644: where having taken the Degree of B.A. he was elected Fellow Mar. 1, 1648-9; and proceeded to his Degree of M.A. in 1651; about which time he was admitted into Holy Orders by *Joseph Hall* Bishop of *Norwich*, then residing at *Heigham* near that City, after the loss of his Bishoprick. Not long after he became Chaplain to Sir *Walter Saint-John* of *Battersea*, who gave him that Living about the year 1658; which vacated his Fellowship; and the same year he took his Degree of B.D. After the Restoration, in 1661, he was elected Master of *Queen's College*, by the major part of the Fellows,<sup>3</sup> against the King's recommendation of Mr. *Anthony Sparrow*, afterwards Bishop of *Norwich*: but the cause, being heard before the King and Council was decided in favour of Mr. *Sparrow*.<sup>4</sup> In 1662, Mr. *Patrick* was unexpectedly presented by *William* Earl of *Bedford*, to the Rectory of *St. Paul's Covent-Garden*, to which he was instituted Sept. 23,<sup>5</sup> where by his excellent Instructions and Example he gained the entire love and esteem of his Parishioners; and more especially by continuing with them all the time of the great Plague in 1665. The following year he determined to proceed in Divinity; but having reasons to be displeased with his old College; thought proper to enter himself of *Christ-Church* in *Oxford*; and was there incorporated B.D., and on July 5, 1666, was admitted to the Degree of D.D.

About

<sup>1</sup> Chauncy's Hist. Antiq. of Hertfordshire, p. 88. <sup>2</sup> Regist. Patrick. fo. 1. <sup>3</sup> Wood's Hist. of Oxf. vol. ii. p. 840. <sup>4</sup> Kennet's Regist. and Chron. p. 596. <sup>5</sup> Newcourt's Repert. v.i. p. 707.



About that time he was Chaplain in ordinary to His Majesty; who in July 1672, preferred him to a Prebend of *Westminster*; and afterwards to the Deanery of *Peterborough*, in which he was installed Aug. 1, 1679.<sup>1</sup>

DURING the reign of King *James II*, he was one of those eminent persons who by their Discourses and Writings distinguished themselves, in defending the Protestant Religion, and that of the Church of *England* in particular; and in opposing the violent attempts that were then made to introduce Popery and Arbitrary power: on which account, he was soon after the Revolution, advanced to the See of *Chichester*, void by the death of Bishop *Lake*; being consecrated Oct. 13, 1689:<sup>2</sup> and at length on July 2, 1691, was translated to *Ely*, which became vacant by Bishop *Turner's* refusing to take the Oaths to King *William* and Queen *Mary*.

WHILST he was Bishop here, he brought to a final issue a Law-Suit that had been long depending between the Bishops of *Ely* and Lord *Hatton's* Family, and procured to himself and his Successors a Fee-farm Rent of 100*l.* a year out of *Hatton-Garden*,<sup>3</sup> and the Messuages erected thereupon; and moreover, for the benefit of his See, obtained an Act of Parliament,<sup>4</sup> for leasing out the Manor and Demesne-lands of *Downham* in the *Isle of Ely*, the Mansion whereof had fallen to ruin in the time of the Usurpation; and for clearing himself and Successors from dilapidations there.

He died at *Ely* May 31, 1707, in the eighty-first year of his Age, and was buried in the Presbytery of his Cathedral Church, where a handsome Monument, was soon after

<sup>1</sup> Le Neve's Fasti. p. 241    <sup>2</sup> Ibid. p. 59.    <sup>3</sup> Mr. Hatton Vice-Chamberlain to Queen Elizabeth, (afterwards Lord Chancellor,) a Favourite of that Queen, had prevailed on her Majesty to speak and write to Bishop Cox, to let him have the best part of *Ely-House* Holbourn, and all the great Garden and Closets belonging to it, on Lease for 21 years, at little or no Rent. Being thus possessed of it, he laid out money upon it, and fitted it to his own convenience: but considering that the present Bishop's lease would not bind his Successors, because it was of Demesnes; nothing afterwards would serve, but the whole Seat of the Bishops of *Ely* in Holbourn in perpetuity. In order to which, he applied again to the Queen, and obtained her Letter to the Bishop for that purpose: and though the Queen pressed the Bishop hard; yet in an elegant *Latin* Letter to her, he humbly suggested his refusal; concluding, that to a perpetual Alienation of that his House, his fearful Conscience could never yield<sup>a</sup>. However, it ended in this; that the Bishop should by way of Mortgage convey to the Queen, and the Queen to Mr. Hatton, the House and Gardens, &c. at that time in lease to him; but withal to be redeemable upon the payment of 1800*l.*; the sum which Mr. Hatton affirmed he had laid out upon it. Nothing was done towards paying off this Mortgage, till Bishop Andrews's time, who did resolve to pay it, lest the Church should suffer at the long run: but this was prevented by the removal of him to Winchester. Bishop Wren afterwards did tender the money, and obtained a Sentence in the Court of Requests: but the long Parliament put a stop to the proceedings, by the imprisonment of the Bishop; and some kind of Ordinance there was made, (but not by the House of Lords,) to reverse the Sentence. During the Bishop's imprisonment, in the time of the Rebellion, the greatest and best part of the House was pulled down, the Garden was built into Tenements, to the value of several Thousand Pounds a year; and *Ely-House* reduced to a very dark and incommodious habitation, without any remains of its ancient Splendor and Magnificence, except the ancient Hall and Chapel. After the Restoration, Lord Hatton found it needful to insist on privilege of Parliament, to avoid answering to a Bill soon exhibited against him in Chancery; by which means, and other incidental delays, neither Bp. Wren, nor any of his immediate Successors, (by whom the Bill was revived,) were able to make any considerable progress in the Suit; till Bp. Patrick at length thought proper to put an end to it, by accepting of 100*l.* a year to be settled on his See.<sup>b</sup>    <sup>4</sup> Private Acts, 9 Will. Parl. 3. Sess. 3. Act. 2.

<sup>a</sup> Strype's Annals of the Reformation, p. 360.    <sup>b</sup> MS. Harleian. N<sup>o</sup> 3789. p. 15.



after erected to his memory,<sup>1</sup> with an Inscription referred to below.<sup>2</sup> An account of the Books, Sermons and Tracts that he wrote, may be seen in *Biographia Britannica*;<sup>3</sup> with other Memoirs of his Life. Bishop *Burnet* ranks him among those many worthy and eminent Clergymen in this Nation, who deserved a high Character, and were indeed an honour to the Church, and to the Age in which they lived.<sup>4</sup>

#### XLV. JOHN MOORE, D.D. 1707.

SON of *Thomas Moore* of *Market-Harborough* in *Leicestershire*, was admitted a Student of *Clare-Hall* in *Cambridge*, and was elected Fellow of that Society. He afterwards became Chaplain to *Heneage Finch* Earl of *Nottingham*; by whose interest and favour he rose to considerable preferments; and in particular was promoted to the first Prebendal Stall in this Cathedral Church of *Ely*,<sup>5</sup> being collated thereto by Bishop *Gunning*, June 28, 1679.<sup>6</sup> His next preferment was the Rectory of *St. Austin's London*, to which he was admitted Dec. 31, 1687; but he quitted that, Oct. 26, 1689,<sup>7</sup> on his being presented by King *William* and Queen *Mary*, (to whom he was then Chaplain in Ordinary,) to the Rectory of *St. Andrew's Holbourn*, vacant by the promotion of Dr. *Stillingfleet* to the See of *Worcester*. On the deprivation of Dr. *William Lloyd* Bishop of *Norwich*, for not taking the Oaths to their Majesties, he was advanced to that See; being consecrated July 5, 1691; and at length was thence translated to this of *Ely*, July 31, 1707. He sat Bishop here exactly seven years; and dying at *Ely-House Holbourn*, July 31, 1714; was interred on the North-side of the Presbytery of his Cathedral Church, near his Predecessor Bishop *Patrick*; and has an elegant Monument<sup>8</sup> erected to his Memory, with an Inscription as below.<sup>9</sup> He was

a

<sup>1</sup> Plate xxix. <sup>2</sup> "M. S. Reverendi admodum in Christo Patris SIMONIS PATRICK per biennium Cicestrensis, deinde per xvi annos Eliensis Episcopi: ad hos amplissimos Dignitatis gradus, propter eximia erga Ecclesiam ac Rempublicam merita, ab optimis Principibus Gulielmo et Maria, erecti: cujus Pietatem insignem, Mores sanctissimos, Ingenium elegans, acre, copiosum, præclaram in omni Literarum genere Scientiam, abunde testantur Dicta, Facta, Scripta ipsius omnia; præsertim eruditissimi et luculentissimi in S. S. Scripturam Commentarii, quovis Elogio majores, quovis Marmore diuturniores. Vir, si quis alius, Candore et Charitate vere Christianâ, Constantiâ Animi invictâ, Æquitate nullo partium studio inclinâtâ. In optimis Artibus colendis promovendisque, in Negotiis maximi momenti gerendis, in universis vigilantissimi Episcopi muneribus explendis, ad extremum usque spiritum perpetuus et indefessus. Cumulatis jam vitæ omnibus officiis, pietissimus Senex placide Animam Deo reddidit 31. Maii, A D. MDCCVII. Anno Ætat. 81."

<sup>3</sup> See the Article PATRICK. <sup>4</sup> History of his own Time. <sup>5</sup> See among the Prebendaries.

<sup>6</sup> Regist. Gunning. <sup>7</sup> Newcourt's Repert. v. i. p. 275. <sup>8</sup> Plate xxx.

<sup>9</sup> "Hic situs est Reverendus admodum in Christo Pater JOHANNES MOORE, Norvicensis prius, deinde hujus Diœceseos Episcopus, vitæ morum egregium ad imitationem exemplar; in quotidianâ enim vitæ consuetudine eluxit Comitæ condita Gravitas, et cum venustissima Suavitate conjuncta Auctoritas. In Concionando perpetuus erat, commovendis ad Pietatem Animis valde idoneo affectu; in rebus difficilioribus explicandis accuratissimus; Ecclesiæ ornandæ pariter ac tuendæ semper intentus; erga Amicos officiorum sedulitate indefessus; erga Patriam eâ fide atque studio, ut consilia ad publicam utilitatem & ad veram libertatem spectantia, in omnibus rerum temporumque commutationibus constanter promoverit; Pauperibus inopiam pecuniâ, adversam valetudinem rei Medicæ scientiâ, (quæ in ipso summa fuit,) sublevabat; inter Scientiæ Civilis Consultos, rerum prudentiâ bonique & æqui cognitione, celebris; inter Literatos eâ demum erat existimatione, ut a multis fere annis nihil editum fuerit de meliore notâ, cui non ex instructissimâ ejus Bibliothecâ, (quæ nunc e munificentia Regiâ Academiæ Cantabrigiensi ornamento est,) materiæ aliquid accesserit. Obiit Julii 31, 1714, Ætatis suæ 68."



a great Collector of scarce and valuable Books, both Printed and MSS: the collection that he had made was indeed so considerable, as to be thought worthy of Royal notice; and was purchased after his decease, by His Majesty King *George I.* for 6000 Guineas; <sup>1</sup> and given as a token of his royal favour, to the University of *Cambridge*.

XLVI. WILLIAM FLEETWOOD, D.D. 1714.

**T**HIS learned and excellent Prelate was descended from an ancient Family of that name in *Lancashire*; <sup>2</sup> and we are told, <sup>3</sup> was born in the Tower of *London* on New-year's Day, 1656. He received the first part of his Education at *Eton*-School, and was from thence elected into *King's* College in *Cambridge*. About the time of the Revolution he entered into Holy Orders; and soon after Preached in his own College, on Lady-day 1689, the Anniversary Sermon of their Foundation, before the University. This Sermon, which was his first essay in publick, was printed at the request of the Vicechancellor and Heads of Colleges, and gained him great reputation, which he afterwards supported through life; being accounted one of the most celebrated Preachers of his time. The same year he became Rector of *St. Austin's* in *London*, to which he was instituted Nov. 26: <sup>4</sup> and was also Lecturer of *St. Dunstan's in the West*. Not long after, he was made Chaplain to King *William* and Queen *Mary*; and by the interest of Dr. *Godolphin* at that time Vice-Provost of *Eton*, was elected Fellow of that College. He was nominated by King *William*, a few days before his death, to a Canonry of *Windſor*: but the Grant not having passed the Seals, before the King died; the House of Commons addressed Queen *Ann*, to give that Canonry to their Chaplain: however, the affair being truly represented to the Queen by Lord *Godolphin*, she thought proper to give it to him. Nothing could be more agreeable to him than these Preferments at *Eton* and *Windſor*; whether it was through an early and natural prejudice in favour of a place he had been used to in his younger days; certain it is, that he had contracted a more than ordinary liking to *Eton* and it's environs: and being naturally of a studious turn, and affecting retirement, he took a resolution of quitting his City Preferments, and retiring to *Wexham* a small Rectory in *Buckinghamshire*, where he had the convenience of a neat and commodious House and Garden, rendered still more agreeable to him, by it's nearness of situation to his beloved *Eton*; and thither he retreated, about the year 1705. He had not long enjoyed this retirement, before he was, without his knowledge or solicitation, nominated by the Queen herself to the See of *St. Asaph*, vacant by the death of Bishop *Beveridge*: and it was this circumstance, of it's being the Queen's own choice, that greatly contributed, as he told some of his friends, to conquer the aversion he had against returning again into the world, and induced him to accept the offer: and accordingly he was consecrated Bishop of *St. Asaph*, June 6, 1708.

HE had always showed himself a true friend to the *English* Constitution both in Church and State; and so zealous was he in the defence of those principles on which the

<sup>1</sup> Continuatio Godwini de Præful. Angl. p. 277. <sup>2</sup> Account of his Life prefixed to his Works in Fol. Lond. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. <sup>4</sup> Newcourt's Repert. vol. i. p. 288.

the Revolution was founded, and in support of the Settlement of the Crown on the Illustrious House of *Hanover*; that in the latter part of Queen *Ann's* reign, when measures were taken, by those who had got into power, and principles industriously propagated, tending to the subversion of all that had been done for the safety of the Kingdom, and it's security from Popery and Arbitrary power, and when Party rage was carried to a greater height than at any time since the Revolution:—our Bishop thought proper publicly to declare his sentiments of those measures, and show their dangerous tendency, in that famous Preface prefixed to Four Sermons, which he published about May in the year 1712. This publication was attended with a very uncommon event; for the Preface being taken notice of in the House of Commons, on a motion made for that purpose, it was ordered to be burnt by the vote of a majority in the House.—This extraordinary and memorable Vote, however intended, served only to set his merits in a more conspicuous light, with all that had the prosperity of the Kingdom at heart, and were well-wishers to the Protestant cause, and the succession of the Crown, as settled by Law. Soon after the accession of His Majesty King *George I.* he was nominated to the vacant See of *Ely*, and was thither translated Dec. 18, 1714, where he continued in the constant attendance on the duties of his office, and unwearied application to his studies, as long as his strength would permit. He had ill health several years before his death; and in the year 1723, found himself much worse than usual; when being advised to go into the Country, for the benefit of the air; he retired to *Tottenham* in *Middlesex*, where he died on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August, in the Sixty-seventh year of his age; and was buried in the Presbytery of his Cathedral Church of *Ely*. A Monument<sup>1</sup> was soon after erected to his Memory, with an Inscription which is inserted below.<sup>2</sup> A more particular account of this Bishop's Life, written by his Nephew Dr. *William Powell* Dean of *St. Asaph* and Prebendary of this Church, is prefixed to his Works, collected together after his death: and a further account of him and his Writings, may be found in *Biographia Britannica*.<sup>3</sup>

#### XLVII. THOMAS GREENE, D.D. 1723.

**W**AS the Son of Mr. *Thomas Greene* of the Parish of *St. Peter's Mancroft* in *Norwich* and *Sarah* his Wife, and was there born in the year 1658.<sup>4</sup> After his education at the Grammar School in that City, he was sent to *Corpus-Christi* College in

<sup>1</sup> Plate XXXI. <sup>2</sup> "H. S. E. GULIELMUS FLEETWOOD hujus Ecclesiæ, olim Asaphensis Episcopus pridie Non. Augusti A. D. MDCCXXIII, suæ Ætatis LXVII nondum pervectus obiit, gravi jam Senectute innumeris laborum Studiis approperata; quorum sane recensitioni neque ulla satis pater Tabula; nec morum Sanctimoniam, Candorem ingenii, rerumque divinarum et humanarum Scientiam, hic commemorare opus erat; neque vero ineluctabilem (suavissimæ tamen) Eloquentiæ vim, Religioni Patriæque Sacramento semper fido militantis; nec robur illud Pectoris ultro sævientibus formidolosæ potentiæ minis atque flammis oppositum pro Domo nunc Regiâ, hoc est, pro Legibus ipsâque Populi salute, et Civili et Sempiternâ. Ista enim ad omnem memoriam ipse quam plurimis consignavit expressitque Monumentis suis; qualia non ponimus superstites. Sed hoc testari Conjux dilectissima suam unicuique Filii venerationem voluit, et desideria atque luctus insanabiles solari."

<sup>3</sup> See the Article FLEETWOOD. <sup>4</sup> Blomefield's Hist. of Norfolk; vol. ii. p. 424.



in *Cambridge*, where he was admitted July 28, 1674; he soon became a Scholar of the House; and having taken the Degree of B.A. he was elected Fellow of the College in 1680: he proceeded in his Degree of M.A. in 1682, and to that of B.D. in 1690.<sup>1</sup> Soon after the promotion of Dr. *Tenison* to the Archbishoprick of *Canterbury*, he was made one of his Chaplains, and was collated to the Vicarage of *Minster* in the Isle of *Thanet*, April 2, 1695; in which year also, he was admitted to his Degree of D.D. and resigned his Fellowship; and about three years after, on the recommendation of Archbishop *Tenison*, was elected Master of the College: In 1699, he was elected Vicechancellor of the University; and in May 1702, was installed Prebendary of *Canterbury*; and Oct. 28, 1708, was collated by the Archbishop to the Rectory of *Adisham* in *Kent*; and on Nov. 3. following was installed Archdeacon of *Canterbury*. He was again appointed Vicechancellor of the University of *Cambridge* in 1713, and by reason of his office, presided at the Divinity Exercises at the Publick Commencement, which happened in his year; when, notwithstanding his long disuse of those Academical Exercises, by his frequent and necessary absence from the University, and engagements in a quite different course of life, he discharged that office with credit to himself, and reputation to the University. Soon after the accession of King *George I.* he was appointed one of the Chaplains in ordinary to His Majesty; and in 1716, resigned his Mastership, on being instituted to the Vicarage of *St. Martin* in the Fields, *Westminster*; to which he was presented by the Trustees of his great Patron Archbishop *Tenison*, for the disposal of his Options, of whom he himself was one. He held this Living sometime in *Commendam* with the Bishoprick of *Norwich*, to which he was promoted, on the translation of Bishop *Trimnell* to *Winchester*, and was consecrated Oct. 8, 1721; and thence was translated to the See of *Ely*, Sept. 24,<sup>2</sup> 1723. As a testimony of his regard to *Corpus Christi* College, of which he had been Master; in 1729, he gave 200 *l.* for procuring Queen *Ann's* Bounty for augmenting the Curacy of *St. Benedict* in *Cambridge* belonging to it. Having sat Bishop here 14 years and an half, he died at *Ely-House Holbourn*, May 18, 1738, in the eightieth year of his age, and was buried on the South-side of his Cathedral Church, where an elegant Monument<sup>3</sup> was soon after erected to his memory, with an Inscription<sup>4</sup> in two compartments; in one of which, are set forth his several preferments; and in the other a very amiable character is given of the Bishop, and such as every one that remembers him, must readily acknowledge to have been justly due to him.

## XLVIII.

<sup>1</sup> Masters's Hist. of Corpus-Christi Coll. Camb. p. 177.    <sup>2</sup> Regist. Greene.    <sup>3</sup> Plate xxxii.

<sup>4</sup> "Hic jacet quod reliquum est THOMÆ GREENE, S.T.P. hujus Ecclesiæ nuper Episcopi, qui longo Honorum decursu, Collegii Corporis Christi Cantabrigienfis olim Socius, postea Magister, Academiæ bis Vice-Cancellarius, Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis Præbendarius et Archidiaconus, Parochiæ Sti Martini in Campis Londin. Vicarius; Episcopatum primò Norwicensem obtinuit, inde ad Eliensem translatus est Septembris die 23, 1723.

Huic Ecclesiæ postquam per quindecim fere annos, summa cum Diligentia, Candoris, et Integritatis laude, mitissime præfuisse; Pietate et Annis gravis, acceptâ tandem Rude, Uxori et numerosæ Proli, aliisque quampluribus Viduis et Orbis, Clero denique et Populo Eliensi flebilis decessit, Maii die 18, Anno Christi 1738, Ætatis 80."



## XLVIII. ROBERT BUTTS, D.D. 1738.

A Descendant of Sir *William Butts*, Physician in ordinary to King *Henry VIII*,<sup>1</sup> by a younger Branch of the Family seated at *Thornage* in *Norfolk*; was Son of *William Butts* Rector of *Hertest* in *Suffolk*: he received the first part of his education at *Bury School* in that County; and from thence was admitted a Student of *Trinity College* in *Cambridge*. After he had taken his Degrees, he became one of the Preachers of *Bury*; and was presented, in 1717, by the Earl of *Bristol*, to his own Parish Church of *Ickworth* in *Suffolk*. In 1728, he was made one of the Chaplains in ordinary to His late Majesty King *George II*, who promoted him, being then D.D. to the Deanery of *Norwich*, in which he was installed April 10, 1731; and in the beginning of the year 1733, advanced him to the Bishoprick of *Norwich*, to which he was consecrated on Feb. 25. On the death of Bishop *Greene*, in 1738, he was translated to *Ely*, in which See he was confirmed Bishop June 27, and enthroned by Proxy July 4 following;<sup>2</sup> where having sat Bishop nine years and six months, he died at *Ely-House Holbourn* on Jan. 26, in the beginning of the year 1748, and was buried in the Cathedral Church in a Vault on the North-side of the Presbytery near the East-end; where a very handsome Monument<sup>3</sup> was soon after erected to his memory, with his Bust thereon, and an Inscription as below.<sup>4</sup>

## XLIX. Sir THOMAS GOOCH, Bart. D.D. 1748.

SON of *Thomas Gooch* Gent. of *Yarmouth* in *Norfolk*, (descended of an ancient Family of that Name, settled at *Metingham* in *Suffolk*;) was first educated at the Grammar-School in *Yarmouth*, and thence admitted of *Gonville and Caius College* in *Cambridge*; where he was elected Scholar, then Fellow of the College, in the year 1698. He afterwards became Chaplain to Dr. *Henry Compton* Bishop of *London*, who collated him to the Rectory of the united Parishes of *St. Clement East-Cheap*, and *St. Martin Orgars London*: and about the year 1713, was made Chaplain in ordinary to her late Majesty Queen *Ann*; and was installed Archdeacon of *Essex* July 24, 1714, being collated thereto by Bishop *Robinson*. On the death of Sir *John Ellis* Knt. M.D. Master of *Gonville and Caius College*, in Nov. 1716, he succeeded him in the Mastership; and the next year was elected Vicechancellor of the University of *Cambridge*;

<sup>1</sup> Blomefield's Hist. of Norf. vol. ii. pag. 427. <sup>2</sup> Regist. Butts. <sup>3</sup> Plate xxxiii.

<sup>4</sup> "Intra hos sacros parietes, piis cineribus dicatos, Rev. admodum in Christo Pater ac Dominus Dominus ROBERTUS BUTTS Eliensis Episcopus situs est; mori, nefas esset illum posse dixerim, cujus Doctrina, Pietas, ac Candor, vivere jubent mortuum. Neque ei defuit Animi fervor Theologo dignus, zelo D. Petri similis, et sanctè, quoad licuit, æmulus; quoties seu Ecclesiæ periclitantis hostes, seu Reipub. perduelles sint debellandi. Si Principibus probis, doctis, ac sapientibus placuisse, in minimâ laude ponendum non est, hoc præsertim nomine hic venerandus Antistes, idem et multum amandus Aulicus celebraretur; quippe summæ Sapientiæ, miræ Comitatis opinione fretus & delectatus, Celsissimus GEORGIUS II, Rex Angliæ illum a Sacris cooptandum maximè voluisset: deindè Eccles. Norvic. ex Decano postea ejusdem Eccles. Norvic. Insulâ ornandum juberet; denuò iisdem regiis auspiciis, totâ plaudente Aulâ, ad Episcopatum Eliensem meritò evectus erat. Tenui vico, at honesto genere Suffolciensi, natus ad omne Bonum Jan. 10, 1685; defunctus ad supremum Jan. 26, 1747."



bridge; in which office he was very instrumental in promoting a design for building a new Senate-House, and in forwarding a Subscription for that purpose; and so sensible was the University of his services, that they elected him again the two following years, viz. in 1718, and 1719; during which three years of his Vicechancellorship, by his good management, the sum of near 10,000*l.* was raised by contributions, towards building that elegant and magnificent Fabrick. He was afterwards made Canon Residentiary of *Chichester*, and became Prebendary of *Canterbury* in 1729. His next promotion was to the See of *Bristol*, of which he was consecrated Bishop June 12, 1737; whence he was soon after translated to *Norwich*, and enthroned by Proxy Nov. 9, 1738: at which time he resigned all his other Preferments, except his Mastership. Whilst he sat Bishop of *Norwich*, he was at a considerable expense in repairing, beautifying, and adding to the convenience of the Episcopal Palace: and in 1742, obtained of his late Majesty King *George II.* Charters for the establishment of two Societies, that had begun to be formed some time before by several worthy Clergymen, for the relief of the Widows and Orphans of Clergymen within the Diocese of *Norwich*; and procuring them both to be incorporated; the one by the Name of ‘The Governors of the charity for the relief of the poor Widows and Orphans of such Clergymen, as at the time of their deaths, were possessed of some Ecclesiastical Benefice or Curacy within the County of *Norfolk* or City of *Norwich* or County of *Norwich.*’—The other of the same kind for the Archdeacons of *Suffolk* and *Sudbury* and elsewhere in the County of *Suffolk*. He was translated to the See of *Ely* Mar. 11, 1747-8; where having sat Bishop about six years, he died at *Ely-House* in *Holbourn* Feb. 14, 1754; and was buried on the 21<sup>st</sup> of the same month in the Chapel of *Gonville* and *Caius* College in *Cambridge*: where a Monument was soon after erected to his memory with an Inscription, as below.<sup>1</sup>

### L. MATTHIAS MAWSON, D.D. 1754.

OF a reputable and wealthy Family settled at *Cheshwick* in *Middlesex*, was born in the Parish of *St. Dunstan's in the West, London*, July 21, 1683; and having received the first part of his education at *St. Paul's School*, was admitted a Student at *Corpus-Christi* or *Bene't College* in *Cambridge* in 1701; and soon after became Scholar of that House; where having taken the Degree of B.A. in 1704, he was elected Fellow of the same, 1707; and proceeding to his Degree of M.A. the following year,

was

“II. S. E. Reverendus admodum Præsul Dominus THOMAS GOOCH Baronettus, hujus Collegii Scholaris, Socius, Custos; Academiæ per tres annos Procancellarius. Qualis Custos? si quæras testentur Annales Collegii, testes sint et hi sacri Parietes, ipsius sub auspiciis restaurati, ornati. Procancellarius qualis? testetur Academia, ibidemque Senaculum vicinum, ambitu ejus diligenti, et instanti prece, pene extractum. Parochus? Sancti Clementis Cives Londinenses. Canonicus? Cicerontes, Cantuarienses. Archidiaconus? Essexienses. Episcopus? Bristolenses, Norwicenses, Elienses. Inter Amicos, Urbanitate, Fide, Constantia; apud Omnes, Facilitate, Elegantiâ, Gravitate, spectabilis. Obiit die Feb. 14, A.D. 1754, Æt. 80. Uxores habuit tres MARIAM Gulielmi Sherlock venerabilis Decani Paulini Filiam, quæ Dom. THOMAM GOOCH de Benacre in Agro Suffolciensi enixa fato cessit, et, quod optabat moribunda, cum illo quem unicè amabat, hic demum jacet tumulata: HANNAM Dom. Johannis Muller Baronetti Filiam, Reverendi JOHANNIS GOOCH Eliensis Ecclesiæ Præbendarii Matrem: MARIAM denique Filiam Honorabilis Hattoni Compton magni illius Spencer Comitis Northamptoniæ Nepotis, quæ mortuum deslet.”

was appointed one of the Moderators of the Philosophy-Schools, and the next year one of the University Taxors. About the year 1718, he was made President of the College; and a collegiate life was at that time so agreeable to him, that he declined accepting an offer made him by the late Duke of *Somerset* Chancellor of the University, of one of the Portions of the valuable Rectory of *Petworth* in *Sussex*. Oct. 6, 1724, he was unanimously elected Master of his College: in which station he continued with great reputation, above twenty years; and then thought proper to resign Feb. 20, 1744-5, in favour of Mr. *Castle*; having expended in the repairs of the College above 200*l*; besides what he had laid out on the Master's Lodge.<sup>1</sup> He was collated by Bishop *Greene*, Dec. 21, 1731, to the Rectory of *Connington* in the County of *Cambridge*; this Living he resigned in April 1732, on being presented, by the same Patron, to the Rectory of *Hadstock* in *Essex*: these were the only Livings he was ever possessed of; and the latter of them, on account of its affording him a convenient retreat from the business of the University, he held several years. In 1730, he was elected by the University, their Vicechancellor; in which station, no one was more attentive to the Duties of it than himself, and particularly in promoting Order and good Discipline in the University; on which account, he was again elected to the same office the following year.

IN 1734, being nominated to the Bishoprick of *Glocester*, he declined accepting the offer; but was afterwards prevailed on to accept that of *Landaffe*, which became vacant in August 1738; and was accordingly consecrated Bishop thereof on Feb. 18, following; and was thence translated to *Chichester* Oct. 21, 1740.<sup>2</sup> From *Chichester* he was at length translated to the See of *Ely*, and confirmed Bishop thereof March 15, 1754.

CONCERNING this venerable Prelate, I shall not recount those praises which are due to him in common with several of his Predecessors; neither shall I here repeat the expressions of my private gratitude: But it would be an unpardonable omission, and ill becoming the character of a faithful and impartial Historian, should I pass over in silence, some striking monuments of his pious care and regard for this Church and Place.

WHEN his Lordship was promoted to this See, the City of *Ely* and Country about it, were much on the decline; occasioned by the adjoining low lands having been several years under water; and the publick roads, at the same time, in so bad a state, as not to be travelled with safety. Under these distressful circumstances, it was obvious that the only effectual means of restoring the Country to a flourishing state, would be to embank the River, to erect Mills for draining the Lands, and to open safe and free communications throughout the large and almost impassable Levels, with which the City of *Ely* was environed; all of them works of great difficulty, and formidable in point of expense! But they have been happily undertaken, under the sanction of several Acts of Parliament; and in consequence thereof a new and

better

<sup>1</sup> Masters's Hist. of Corpus-Christi College. pag. 198. <sup>2</sup> Whilst his Lordship was Bishop of that See, he gave a considerable sum of Money, for painting and beautifying the Choir of that Cathedral.



better face hath been given to the whole Country, and great advantages both of Healthiness and Commerce have been derived to the Inhabitants. But whatever praises are due, (as many are certainly due) to the sagacity, activity, and publick spirit of other Noblemen and Gentlemen<sup>1</sup> of this County; yet the success of the several schemes, hath been greatly owing to the suggestions of our worthy Bishop, to his advice and encouragement, his aid and munificence.

NEITHER hath our Bishop been less active and solicitous to improve and beautify his Cathedral Church: Accordingly he offered to contribute the sum of one Thousand pounds, towards defraying the charge of removing the Choir to the East-End, being that part of the Church called the Presbytery; (an alteration which had been long wished for, by all persons of true taste;) and as the Dean and Prebendaries have accepted his Lordship's offer, and have agreed also to raise the like sum of one Thousand pounds among themselves, for the same purpose, there can be no doubt, but that this Undertaking, great as it is, will be finished in the best manner, by means of so considerable a fund: And that nothing might be wanting to render the Whole truly elegant, his Lordship, besides this Benefaction, hath engaged at his own charges, to pave the New Choir with black and white Marble; and also to glaze all the Windows at the East End thereof with Painted-Glass; an elegant Design for which hath been lately settled, and is to be executed by an eminent Artist, under the inspection of a Gentleman of the most approved taste. A considerable progress is already made in the several branches of this Undertaking; which, when completed according to the present Plan,<sup>2</sup> will render the Cathedral of *Ely* inferior to none in Beauty and Magnificence. — Great certainly are the Obligations which the whole Community, both of the Church and Isle of *Ely*, are under to his Lordship, on these and other accounts:<sup>3</sup> And I may venture to represent it as their general Wish, That the Life of so valuable a Prelate may be prolonged to the utmost term, that can consist with his own comfort and happiness!

<sup>1</sup> On this occasion, I cannot help mentioning the name of George Riste Esq; Alderman of Cambridge; whose bequest of 200*l.* towards making a Turnpike-Road from Cambridge to *Ely*, (if begun within a limited time,) invigorated that scheme; which many were apt to consider as impracticable: But the success of it hath answered the most sanguine expectations of it's advocates, and hath given occasion to open other like communications from *Ely* in all directions.

<sup>2</sup> The Design of the New Choir, (Plate XLIX.) was made by, and is now executing under the direction of Mr. James Essex of Cambridge, Architect; by whom the Repairs and Improvements of the Dome, Lantern, and other Parts of the Church were conducted.

<sup>3</sup> Among these must be mentioned, His having lately in a manner rebuilt, and made very strong and commodious the publick Gaol of *Ely*, at an expense of more than 500*l.*

Mar. 24,

1770.

P R I O R S

## PRIORS of ELY,

From the first founding of the Bishoprick, A.D. 1109.

THE Abby of ELY refounded by King Edgar, A.D. 970, by the munificence of that King and many other subsequent Benefactors, became possessed of such considerable revenues, before the *Norman* Conquest, as to afford a very liberal maintenance to an Abbot and Seventy Monks of the *Benedictine* Order. It continued in that state about 239 years, under the government of Ten successive Abbots; when it was, both by Regal and Papal authority, converted to an Episcopal See in the 10<sup>th</sup> year of K. *Henry* I, A.D. 1109; and *Hervey* Bishop of *Bangor* being translated to it, became the first Bishop of *Ely*. Soon after this change, the Monks, who according to the custom of other Conventual Cathedrals in this Kingdom, constituted his Chapter, had a distinct part of the Abby Lands and Estates assigned them for their maintenance; and the Bishop who succeeded in the place of the Abbot, had the rest of the Estates, and with them also retained many of the Privileges, honours, and authority, which formerly belonged to the Abbot; and indeed in many respects was still considered as their Abbot: but having the care of a Diocese added to that of the Monastery, the immediate government of the Monks devolved on the Prior; who was then the first Person in the Monastery, and held the same rank, as the Deans of other Cathedral Churches, in which the Chapters consisted of Secular Canons: He presided in Chapter, was the *Custos* of the Order, and by his office was to inspect the behaviour of the other Members of the Society, and to see that all performed their duty in their several places and stations. This chief Officer of the Monastery was at first put in by the Bishop, but afterwards came to be elected by the Monks: He had a number of Servants and Attendants to himself, and likewise his proper Hall, Chambers, and other necessary apartments, fit for his Family, and distinct from those of the common Society, which were called the Prior's Lodgings; where he kept hospitality, and frequently invited the other members of the Society to his Table, occasionally, in their turns, or as he thought proper; and entertained all strangers of rank coming to the Monastery; he was usually styled Lord Prior; and in some reigns of our Kings, was summoned to sit in Parliament. A Catalogue of those persons who have held this Dignity, was published by Mr. *Wharton*,<sup>1</sup> and since his time by Mr. *Willis*;<sup>2</sup> some mistakes there are in both, which I have endeavoured to rectify; but as they seem so nearly compleat, as to the number of the Priors, I think it only needful further to say, that what corrections, alterations, and additions appear in the following Catalogue, are founded on authentick Evidences.

1. VINCENT was the first Prior of *Ely* after it became a Bishop's See; he died in the life-time of Bishop *Hervey*, and was succeeded by

2. HENRY, who continued Prior till 1133; and then either resigned his Office, or was displaced; for it appears,<sup>3</sup> that Bishop *Nigellus*, on his first coming to *Ely*, which was the latter end of that year, gave the Priorship to

3. WILLIAM,

<sup>1</sup> Angl. Sacr. v. i. p. 683. <sup>2</sup> Mitred Abbies. v. i. p. 272. <sup>3</sup> MS. Lib. Elien. lib. iii. cap. 47.



3. WILLIAM, and he together with his Predecessor *Henry*<sup>1</sup> were both present on Jan. 5. following, *i. e.* the beginning of the year 1134, as Witnesses to an account taken of the Treasures and Ornaments of the Church. How long he continued Prior is uncertain, but his Successor

4. TOMBERT or THEMBERT appears to have been possessed of that Dignity about the year 1144, and enjoyed it about nine or ten years; during which time he improved the Buildings of the Monastery, and added some Ornaments to the Church; and was succeeded by

5. ALEXANDER, a pious and learned Monk of this Convent, who is also commended for his knowledge in the *Latin, French, and English* Languages.<sup>2</sup> He had some years before, in 1140 or 1141, been at *Rome*, after King *Stephen* had taken into his hands the Bishoprick of *Ely*; having been sent thither on that occasion; and brought back with him Letters<sup>3</sup> of Pope *Innocent II*, directed to the King, and to *Henry* Bishop of *Winchester* and the rest of the Bishops of *England*, to restore to the Church of *Ely* it's ancient Liberties, and to the Bishop his possessions that had been taken from him. He became Prior of this Church about the year 1154;<sup>4</sup> and translated the Bones of several old Bishops and Benefactors, from the old Conventual Church, where they had formerly been buried, into the Cathedral Church, as taken notice of before.<sup>5</sup>

6. SOLOMON, who had been Precentor of the Church, occurs Prior in 1163,<sup>6</sup> several years before the death of Bishop *Nigellus*, who died in 1169; and was a Witness to divers Charters and Grants of that Bishop: he was present also at the Consecration of his Successor *Geoffry Ridcl* at *Canterbury* Oct. 6, 1174; at which time happened a contest between our Prior and *Richard* Archdeacon of *Ely*,<sup>7</sup> concerning the right of Presenting the Bishop Elect to the Archbishop for Consecration; the Archdeacon grounding his right to it, as being by virtue of his office the Bishop's Official; and the Prior asserting his right, as having in all respects the same dignity and privileges in his Conventual Cathedral, as the Deans had in all other Cathedral Churches, where the Chapters consisted of Canons: which claim of the Prior was allowed and confirmed by the Archbishop, with the consent of all his Suffragans then present. — In the year 1177, soon after *Easter*, King *Henry II*, in his progress came to *Ely*, and there, being attended by a great many Bishops, Earls, and Barons, held a Council on affairs of State; which being ended, he returned to *London*, in order to keep his Whitsuntide there; and at this Solemnity he promoted *Solomon* Prior of *Ely* to the Abby of *Thorney*.<sup>8</sup> On his promotion,

7. RICHARD, Subprior of the Convent, was made Prior, viz. in the year 1177. He was reckoned a Man of considerable learning, for the times in which he lived: and had been at *Rome* in the time of Pope *Eugenius III*, on the business of his Monastery. He wrote several Books, mentioned by *Ba'e*,<sup>9</sup> and particularly the History of

<sup>1</sup> — 'his subscriptis presentibus et testibus, Willielmo Priore, Henrico olim Priore, &c.' *ibid.* cap. 46. <sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* cap. 60. <sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* capp. 61, 62. <sup>4</sup> *Angl. Sac.* vol. i. p. 683. <sup>5</sup> See pag. 85. note 3. <sup>6</sup> *Chartular. Vetus penes Decanum & Capit. Elien.* fol. 263. <sup>7</sup> *Radulf. de Diceto Ymag. Hist.* col. 581, 582. <sup>8</sup> *Chron. Joh. Brompton*, col. 1127, 1128. <sup>9</sup> *Cent.* 3. c. 82.

of the Church of *Ely*; some account of this latter Work and of the Author, is given by Mr. *Wharton* in *Anglia Sacra*,<sup>1</sup> and by Dr. *Cave* in his *Historia Literaria*.<sup>2</sup> The year of his death is uncertain: he was living after the Feast of St. *Andrew* 1189;<sup>3</sup> how long after that time, I do not find; but his Successor,

8. ROBERT LONGCHAMP, occurs Prior in 1194.<sup>4</sup> He was Brother to *William Longchamp* Bishop of *Ely*, and by him promoted to this Priorship. In 1197,<sup>5</sup> he was elected Abbot of St. *Mary's* in *York*; but did not think fit to give his full consent; having a view at the same time to the Abby of *Westminster* then vacant, which he hoped to obtain by the interest of his Brother the Chancellor, who was on his journey towards *Rome*; but his Brother dying Jan. 30. following at *Poitiers* in *France*; as soon as he was informed of it, he gave his consent, and was installed April 2. following. By this means the See of *Ely* and the Priory became both vacant, at the same time: And the King who was then in *Normandy*, sent over<sup>6</sup> *Walter de Gutra* Abbot of *Waltham*, and *Richard Barre* Archdeacon of *Ely*, with Letters to the Convent, and orders to proceed to an election of a Bishop; to whom the Convent returned answer, That they could not elect a Bishop, without a Prior. Whereupon *Hubert Walter* Archbishop of *Canterbury* issued out a Mandate to the Convent to elect themselves a Prior; and then they elected

9. JOHN DE STRATESHETE, about the end of Feb. 1197-8, for their Prior:<sup>7</sup> and he is the first Prior that came in by election; for before that time the Bishops conferred that office according to their will. Soon after he was made Prior, he and some of the principal persons of the Convent went over to the King who was at *Waldereil* in *Normandy*, and there elected *Eustace* the Chancellor for their Bishop. He was succeeded by

10. HUGH, who, I find, was Prior *Anno 1<sup>mo</sup> post Coronationem Johannis Regis*, as the Date is expressed in a Writing of that Age,<sup>8</sup> and I suppose means the year 1200; he also occurs Prior in 1206;<sup>9</sup> and after him,

11. ROGER DE BRIGHAM became Prior sometime before 1215, and whilst *Eustace* was Bishop of *Ely*; who Instituted several Persons to the Churches of *Wicham*, *Haukston*, &c. on the Presentation of *Roger* the Prior and the Convent of *Ely*.<sup>10</sup> *Roger* continued Prior all the time of Bishop *John de Fontibus*, and of Bishop *Geoffry de Burgh*; the latter of whom he survived only a few weeks; dying in the beginning of the year 1229, whilst the Temporalities of the See were in possession of the King's Officers; who laid hold on that occasion, to seize for the King's use the revenues of the Priory, which had never been done before. However, the Monks on making application to the King's Court, obtained a Precept directed to the Keepers of the Temporalities, ordering the revenues of the Priory to be restored.<sup>11</sup> About this time Pope *Gregory IX*, by his Bull dated at *Perusia* June 12, 1229,<sup>12</sup> confirmed all the Privileges

<sup>1</sup> Vol. i. Pref. p. XLV. <sup>2</sup> vol. ii. p. 395. <sup>3</sup> MS. Cotton. Tiberius. B. 2. fol. 255. <sup>4</sup> MS. Regist. Dni Ep'i Elien. M. p. 318. <sup>5</sup> Inquisitio coram Thoma de Ingelthorp et Matheo Christien Custodibus Episcopatus post mortem Galfridi de Burgo 6 die Mar. An. 13<sup>o</sup> Henr. iii — "Preterea Jurati dicunt, quod tempore Regis Ricardi, Robertus de Longo Campo Prior Elien. et Frater Dni Will'i Ep'i tunc Canc. Dni Regis, electus fuit in Abbatem Ebor. qui plene non consensit primò Electioni de se facte, per consilium Ep'i Fratris sui, eo quod Abbate Westmonast. tunc mortuo, mallet Ep'u's Fraterejus eum transfuisse in Abbatem Westmonast., quo Will'o Ep'o interim mortuo, — Robertus Prior Elien. — consensit electioni de se facte, &c." MS. Regist. Ep'i A. fol. 39, 40. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. <sup>7</sup> Ibid. <sup>8</sup> Chartular. vetus penes Decanum & Capit. fo. 263. <sup>9</sup> Ibid. fo. 199. <sup>10</sup> MS. Regist. Ep'i M. fo. 167. — So that what is said in Angl. Sacr. v. i. p. 684, that *Roger* was elected in the time of *John* [de Fontibus,] is a mistake. <sup>11</sup> MS. Regist. Ep'i A. fo. 39, 40. <sup>12</sup> MS. Regist. Ep'i M. fo. 18, 19.



of the Prior and Convent of *Ely*, among which is that of electing their Prior.

12. RALPH was confirmed Prior about Mar. 25, 1229; and I find that the Bishop and he had the administration of the Archdeaconry committed to them in August 1233, by *Giles*' Archdeacon of *Ely*, Subdeacon and Chaplain to Pope *Gregory IX*: he appears also to have been Prior in the year 1235;<sup>1</sup> and after him,

13. WALTER occurs Prior on Wednesday in Easter-Week 1241.<sup>2</sup> He outlived Bishop *Norwold* and Bishop *Kilkenny*, and was Prior when *Hugh Balsbam* Sub-Prior of the Convent was elected Bishop in 1257; and was Witness to that Bishop's Appropriation of *Swafham St. Mary* to the Prior and Canons of *Anglesey*, dated at *Downham* Mar. 16, 1258-9,<sup>3</sup> and seems to have died<sup>4</sup> May 13 following; for his Successor

14. ROBERT DE LEVERINGTON was Prior March the 6th 1259-60<sup>5</sup>; and died on the 12<sup>th</sup> of Sept. 1271. Whereupon the King's Escheator took the Priory into the King's hands: but the Monks soon obtained the King's Writ, dated Oct. 21, commanding him to restore it to the Convent, as having been wrongfully seized.<sup>6</sup> On the demise of a Prior, it was now usual for the Convent to notify to the Bishop the vacancy, and desire leave to proceed to an election; — and after the election so made, to present the Elect for his Confirmation: and on this occasion I meet with the Bishop's Licence to the Sub-Prior and Convent, to elect a Prior, dated at *Ely* the Wednesday after the Feast of *St. Matthew* 1271:<sup>7</sup> in pursuance of which,

15. HENRY DE BANCCIS or BANKS was elected Prior; he possessed this Dignity a little more than two years, and died in the month of December 1273; the Bishop's Licence for electing a new Prior being dated at *Downham*<sup>8</sup> the 27th of that month. This Prior and likewise his Predecessor, sat in the Bishop's Temporal Court as Justices in Eyre, as appears by the Records cited below.<sup>9</sup>

16. JOHN DE HEMMINGSTON was elected Prior in January 1273-4; and presided here near 15 years. The new Refectory or Common Hall, now the Deanery, which seems to have been begun to be built about the year 1270,<sup>10</sup> was finished in this Prior's time. He died Nov. 9, 1288; and the Convent had the Bishop's Licence to elect a new Prior, dated at *Ely* the 16th of the same month; whereupon

17. JOHN DE SHEPRETH was elected Prior; he presided but a little time; and was succeeded by

18. JOHN SALEMAN, DE MELRE, or DE ELY, who occurs Prior about the year 1291. Whether he was born at *Ely*, or at *Melre* now *Meldreth* in *Cambridgeshire*,

<sup>1</sup> MS. Cotton. Tiberius. B. 2. fo. 252. <sup>2</sup> Chartular. vet. penes Decan. & Capit. Elen. fo. 140. <sup>3</sup> MS. Regist. Ep̃i M. fo. 385. <sup>4</sup> Madox Formulæ. pag. 310. <sup>5</sup> <sup>6</sup> 3 Id. Maii est Obitus Walteri Prioris. Obituarium Elen. MS. Cotton. Vespasian. A. 6. <sup>6</sup> Chartular. vet. penes Decanum & Capit. Elen. fo. 109. <sup>7</sup> MS. Regist. Ep̃i M. fo. 117. <sup>8</sup> Ibid. fo. 195. <sup>9</sup> Ibid. fo. 196. <sup>10</sup> Placita apud Ely coram Roberto de Leverington Priore Elen. Philippo de Insula et Jordano D'aventer temp. Hug. Ep̃i nunc, &c." — "Placita apud Ely coram Priore, et Waltero de Wilburgham, Roberto de Insula, Andr. de Ely, et aliis Justiciariis. Itinerant. ibidem Anno Reg. Henr. 56<sup>o</sup> incipiente, temp. I. lug. Ep̃i, &c." MS. Cotton. Vespasian. A. 19. fo. 99. — "Finalis Concordia facta in Curia Dni Ep̃i Elen. apud Ely, in Crastino Animarum, Anno regni Regis Henr. fil. Regis Johannis 57<sup>o</sup> Coram Henrico de Bandis Priore de Ely, Roberto de Insula, et Waltero de Wilburgham Justiciariis ipsius Ep̃i Itinerantibus, &c." MS. Regist. Ep̃i M. fo. 374. <sup>11</sup> MS. Lambeth. 448. pag. 96.



*shire*, cannot be determined with any certainty; though it is probable it was at one or other of those places; however, there is direct proof that his Father's Name was *Salomon* a Goldsmith at *Ely*, and who seems to have been a person of some note there; and that he had a Brother whose Name was *Symon*,<sup>1</sup> possessed of an estate in *Steuchworth* in the same County, (the Manor whereof then belonged to the Prior and Convent of *Ely*,) which estate was afterwards given to, or purchased by the Convent; as appears by the evidences cited below.\* On the death of *William de Luda* in 1298, he was elected Bishop, by the major part of the Convent; but another party of the Monks having elected *John de Langton* the King's Chancellor, occasioned much dissension among them; and what added to their embarrassment, was the King's Officers, (who were in possession of the Temporalities of the See,) taking also possession of the Priory. Whereupon the Prior and Convent, seeing what inconvenience they were subject to, every time the See became vacant, applied for redress; and though they met with some difficulties and delay;<sup>3</sup> obtained at length, by a Fine of 1000 Marks, the King's Charter, exempting the Priory from being again seized, by reason of the vacancy either of the See, or of the Priory.<sup>4</sup> — In the mean time the merits of the Election having been examined by the Archbishop, and Sentence ready to be given in favour of the Prior; the Chancellor appealed to the Pope. The event was, (as before related,<sup>5</sup>) that Pope *Boniface VIII* annulled the election of them both, and on July 15, 1299, translated *Ralph Walpole* Bishop of *Norwich* to *Ely*, and promoted the Prior of *Ely* to the See of *Norwich*, who was consecrated by Archbishop *Winchelsey*, Nov. 15 following.<sup>6</sup> After his advancement to *Norwich*, he was raised to be Lord Chancellor<sup>7</sup> of *England* in 1319, which high office he held three or four years. He died on July 6, 1325, in the Priory of *Folkeston* in *Kent*, on his return from *Paris*, whither he had been sent on an embassy to the *French King*.<sup>8</sup> On his promotion to *Norwich*,

19. ROBERT DE ORFORD was elected Prior in 1299; and on the death of Bishop *Ralph Walpole*, was by the Convent elected Bishop of *Ely*, Apr. 14, 1302; but did not get possession till near a year after, being obliged to take a journey to *Rome*, to support his claim. Pope *Boniface VIII* confirmed his election; and on his return to *England*, the King gave him possession of the Temporalities Feb. 4, following: after which,

20. WILLIAM DE CLARE was elected Prior; but died after he had presided only seven weeks; and was succeeded by

21. JOHN

\* This *Symon de Ely*, as he is called, was made Archdeacon of *Sudbury* in 1308; which he exchanged for that of *Suffolk* in 1311; and was succeeded in this latter Archdeaconry Mar. 28, 1324, by *Alan de Ely*, another of his Brothers. See *Le Neve's Fast.* p. 220, 222. — & *Blomefield's Hist. Norf.* v. ii. p. 359. <sup>2</sup> “*Carta Symonis fil. Salomonis Aurifabri de Ely, de firma Terre in Steuchworth, Dñi Johanni Priori Elien. Fratri suo et ejusdem loci Conventui; tenend. & habend. dict. terram, &c. a Festo Nativitatis Domini An. Reg. Edw. fil. Regis Henrici 22º, usque ad terminum 40 annorum.*” *Chartular. vet. penes Decan. et Capit. Elien.* fo. 160. — “*Carta Symonis fil. Salomonis Aurifabri, de concessione dicte terre, in puram et perpetuam Elemosinam Dñi Johanni Priori Elien. Fratri suo et Conventui.*” (*sine Anno.*) *Ibid.* <sup>3</sup> *Madox Hist. Exchequer.* p. 659. <sup>4</sup> *MS. Regist. Epi. M.* fo. 124. The Charter bears Date Oct. 26. *Teste* the King at *Westm.* An. Reg. 27º. — *Irrot. in Cancell. Dñi Regis apud Ebor.* Term. S. Trin. An. 28º. <sup>5</sup> Page 154. <sup>6</sup> *Godwin de Præful. Angl.* p. 433, Not. y. <sup>7</sup> *Ibid.* <sup>8</sup> He built the Great Hall and Chapel belonging to the Episcopal Palace at *Norwich*, and did other considerable works, mentioned by Mr. *Blomefield* in his *Hist. of Norf.* vol. ii. p. 359.



21. JOHN DE FRESINGFIELD; who occurs Prior on Tuesday after the feast of St. Thomas 1303.<sup>1</sup> He augmented the revenues of the Monastery, by the purchase of some considerable estates in land, in *Ely*, *Wicham*, *Sutton*, and *Downham*, which he appropriated to the use of his Successors.<sup>2</sup> He presided near 18 years; when growing somewhat infirm, he resigned the Priorship Feb. 16, 1320-1; and had a yearly Pension, and other advantages, with convenient apartments in the Monastery assigned him for life; where he lived in retirement about 18 years more; dying sometime after Michaelmas 1338.<sup>3</sup> On his resignation,

22. JOHN DE CROUDEN, CRAUDEN, or CROWDEN,<sup>4</sup> was elected Prior, and entered on his office May 20, 1321.<sup>5</sup> He presided here twenty years: during which time there were larger and more expensive Buildings undertaken and carried on, than perhaps in any other equal period of time, since the foundation of the Church. The Chapel of St. Mary on the North-side of the Presbytery was just begun, the first stone of it being laid by *Alan de Walsingham* the Subprior on Lady-day 1321. Soon after this, on February 12 following, the great Tower in the middle of the Church suddenly falling down in the night, quite demolished the Choir that was under it, and so much damaged the Arches of the Nave Eastward of the Tower, that they were obliged to be taken down and rebuilt: besides this, the Prior built a very handsome Chapel of stone covered with lead, a new Hall and Study adjoining to his Lodgings. These great Works, all carried on at the same time, must have been attended with a very large expense. Nevertheless, as the Prior and Convent exerted their utmost abilities; they found such assistance from others, as enabled them to compleat their designs; and in particular from Bishops *Hotbam* and *Montacute*; the former of these, with whom the Prior lived on the most friendly terms, generously took upon himself the charge of building the three Arches of the Presbytery adjoining to the Dome and Lantern, and lived to see them finished; and his Successor Bp. *Montacute* was a most liberal Benefactor to St. Mary's Chapel, which he intended to have finished, but did not live to see that design compleated. This Prior was a great encourager of learning in those that were under him: he purchased a House at *Cambridge*, and sent thither some of his Monks to reside, in order for their better improvement in University Learning.<sup>6</sup> On the death of Bishop *Hotbam* in 1337, he was unanimously by the Convent elected Bishop of *Ely*; but by what means he failed of success, has already been mentioned.<sup>7</sup> He died on Sept. 25, 1341, and was

<sup>1</sup> Chartular. vet. penes Decan. & Capit. Elen. fo. 196. <sup>2</sup> Angl. Sacr. v.i. p. 643. <sup>3</sup> Rot. Comput. Camerarii ad annum <sup>4</sup> Mr. Wharton, and from him Mr. Willis and others, call him Cranden, by an easy mistake of the *u* for *n*: but as he is expressly called Crowden, Crowden, and sometimes Crauden, in the Rotuli Computus, and other Writings of the Church in his own time; there is no doubt, but his true Name was de Crowden; and that he took his Name from Crowden a Village in Cambridgeshire, the place of his birth; as was usual, especially with the Monks, in those times. <sup>5</sup> Rot. Comput. Thesaurar. ad annum. <sup>6</sup> This House was a few years after granted to W. Bateman Bp. of Norwich, who on the site thereof built part of Trinity Hall: and then the Ely Monks fixed themselves on the other side of the Cam, with those of Ramsey, Walden, and other Benedictines; thence called Monks College: whereon part of Magdalen College now stands, Tanner's Notit. Monast. p. 52, 54. From the time of Prior Crowden, there was generally three or four of the Ely Monks constantly residing at Cambridge, maintained there at the Convent expense, and regularly took their Degrees; after which they returned to the Convent, and others were sent to supply their places: as appears from the Rot. Comput. remaining in the Church. <sup>7</sup> Page 158.

was buried in the Presbytery at the feet of Bishop *Hotham*, under a large Marble inlaid with brass, whereon was formerly inscribed this Epitaph ;

“ *Hanc Aram decorat de Crauden tumba Johannis,  
Qui fuit hic Prior ad bona pluria, pluribus annis.  
Presulis hunc Sedes elegit Pontificari;  
Presulis ante pedes ideo meruit tumulari.*”

23. ALAN DE WALSINGHAM, Sacrist of the Monastery, was elected Prior Oct. 25, 1341, confirmed by Bishop *Montacute*, Nov. 19, and Installed the next day by the Bishop himself in person.<sup>1</sup> His knowledge and skill in mechanical Arts, seems to have given rise to that reputation he afterwards attained. The first mention I find made of him, is in the year 1314, by *Walsingham* the Historian,<sup>2</sup> who occasionally speaks of his skill in Goldsmith's work ; he was then one of the junior Monks of this Church. But afterwards turning his mind to the study of Architecture, he became one of the most eminent Architects of his time. In 1321, he was Sub-prior, and on Lady-day that year laid the first stone of St. *Mary's* Chapel, as before observed : in December following, being made Sacrist, he had by this office the care of the fabrick of the Church ; and the accident that happened to the Church soon after, by the fall of the great Tower, taken notice of before ; afforded an ample field for the display of his genius. The idea he formed of erecting a lofty spacious Octagon, crowned with a Dome and Lantern, in the place of the old Tower, was new and uncommon ; he had no model to follow : the difficulties attending such a structure, and an original in it's kind, did not however deter him from attempting it : and his success in the undertaking, is a proof of his superior skill, a Monument that still exists, of his abilities in Architecture : For that he himself was the Deviser of that Work, and acted throughout as principal Architect, is clear from the account that is given of it ;<sup>3</sup> and is moreover confirmed by his Epitaph : and though there is no direct proof that he gave the Plans of St. *Mary's* Chapel, and Bishop *Hotham's* new building, yet I think it is not at all improbable but he did : and *John de Wisbech*<sup>4</sup> one of the Monks, who is with commendation recorded to have had the oversight of St. *Mary's* Chapel, whilst it was in building, was, I apprehend, Overseer under him. That the Choir was begun by the same eminent Architect, whilst he was Sacrist, and finished in his life-time, we learn from the following Eulogium wrote when he was Prior,

“ *Vos qui regnorum vidistis opus variorum,  
Hunc scitote Chorum pre cunctis esse decorum,  
Quem Frater Alanus fecit Constructor humanus,  
Tunc Sacrista pius, nunc Prior egregius.*”<sup>5</sup>

Besides the great works about the Church, he was continually making improvements in the buildings of the Monastery, both whilst he was Sacrist, and after he became Prior : the Sacrist's Office he almost new built, made several additional apartments in it, and encompassed the whole with a strong wall ; in the North-west corner of which he built a square building of stone, and covered it with lead ; part of this he appropriated to the use of Goldsmith's work, and for other purposes relative to his Office : an-  
other

<sup>1</sup> Regist. Montacute. fo. 25. <sup>2</sup> Tho. Walsingham Hist. Angl. Edw II. pag. 104. <sup>3</sup> Angl. Sacr. v. i. p. 644. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. p. 651. — John de Wisbech held the office of Custos Capellæ B. Mariæ, from the time the Chapel was begun, to his death, which happened in July 1349, during the great Plague ; about which time the Chapel was nearly finished. <sup>5</sup> MS. Cotton. Titus A. 1.



other Building taken notice of as built by him, was contiguous to the Infirmary; it was of stone, covered with lead, and had convenient offices under it, chiefly intended for the use of the *Custos* of the Infirmary. In his time also, Bells were first put up in the great Western Tower. Four of the largest were cast by Master *John de Glocester*, Founder, in the year 1346: the names and weight of which were these, *Mary* weighing 2180<sup>Lib.</sup>, *John* 2704,<sup>L.</sup> *Jesus* 3792,<sup>L.</sup> and *Walsingham* 6280,<sup>L.</sup> And notwithstanding these great expenses in building, during his administration; he made several considerable purchases of Lands and Estates, in the mean time; particularly the Manor of *Brame* near *Ely*, and the Manor of *Mepal* in the *Isle of Ely*; both which he added to the revenues of the Monastery, and which are still in the possession of the Church. On the vacancy of the See of *Ely* in 1345, by the death of Bishop *Montacute*, the Convent unanimously elected their worthy Prior to succeed him; but Pope *Clement VI*, without paying any regard to the merits of his person, or their right of Election, conferred it by way of Provision, on *Thomas L'Isle*, as taken notice of before.<sup>1</sup> He lived, however, many years after that; for he occurs Prior in 1363, 37 *Edward III*,<sup>2</sup> and probably died the year following, viz. 1364; as seems to be intimated by his Epitaph; in which also the place of his interment is obscurely hinted at; but the exact place is not easy to be ascertained. His Epitaph was this;

“ *Flos Operatorum, dum vixit corpore sanus,  
Hic jacet ante Chorum Prior en tumultus Alanus!  
Annis bis denis vivens fuit ipse Sacrista,  
Plus tribus his plenis Prior ens perfecit et ista;  
Sacristariam quasi funditus edificavit;  
Mephale, Brame etiam huic Ecclesie cumulavit;  
Pro veteri Turre, que quadam nocte cadebat,  
Hanc Turrim proprie quam cernitis hic faciebat:  
Et plures Aedes quia fecerat ipse Prioris,  
Detur ei Sedes Celi, pro fine laboris.”<sup>3</sup>*

24. WILLIAM HATHFIELD seems to have been the immediate Successor to Prior *Walsingham*;<sup>4</sup> however, it was only a little while; for

25. JOHN BUCTON occurs Prior in 1366,<sup>5</sup> and held that office above Thirty years; in the times of Bishops *Langham*, *Barnet*, *Arundel*, and *Fordham*; the latter of whom he installed in person, by commission from the Archdeacon of *Canterbury*.<sup>6</sup> The great Gate of the Monastery, still remaining, called *Ely Porta*; being the place where the Manor-Court of the Prior and Convent was held; was begun to be built in this Prior's time; and was in building at the time of his death; which happened in the year 1397.<sup>7</sup> He was succeeded by

26. WILLIAM WALPOLE, who was elected Prior before August 10, 1397:<sup>8</sup> and was in possession of that office Sept. 20, 1401; at which time this Church was visited by Archbishop *Arundel*. He resigned soon after, and was succeeded by

27. WILLIAM POWCHER, Abbot of *Walden* in *Essex*. He had been a Monk of *Ely*, and was Sacrist of the Church in 1390, in which year he was elected Abbot of *Walden*, and confirmed June 11:<sup>9</sup> but quitted that Preferment in 1401, being then elected Prior

<sup>1</sup> Page 160. <sup>2</sup> Chart. vet. penes Dec. & Capit. fo. 243. <sup>3</sup> MS. Cotton. Tit. A. 1. <sup>4</sup> Chart. vet. penes Dec. & Capit. fo. 237. <sup>5</sup> Ibid. fo. 231. <sup>6</sup> Regist. Fordham. fo. 9. <sup>7</sup> Rot. Comput. Thesaurarii, ad annum. <sup>8</sup> Rym. Fœd. v. viii. p. 9. — Regist. Fordham. fo. 126. <sup>9</sup> Newcourt's Repert. v. ii. p. 623.



Prior by the Monks of *Ely*, and so returned to his old House. During his administration, the Pillars and Arches which support the Great Western Tower of the Church, were begun in 1405, to be repaired and strengthened by a casing of stone, in the manner we now see them. This Prior in 1413, first obtained of Pope *John XXIII*, the privilege of wearing the Mitre, and the use of the Pastoral-staff, and other Pontifical ornaments, to himself and his Successors.<sup>1</sup> In his time also, the great Controversy that had long subsisted between the Bishop, and the Prior and Convent; relating to spiritual jurisdiction, and claims of privileges in their several Manors, and other matters, was finally determined by Reference, Dec. 13, 1417.<sup>2</sup> Soon after which, I suppose, he died; for

28. EDMUND WALSINGHAM occurs Prior August 14, 1418:<sup>3</sup> and held that Dignity also in 1424; and I find that on Oct. 8, that year, he appointed his Proxy<sup>4</sup> in Parliament called to meet on Nov. 12 following, to which he had been summoned. He was succeeded by

29. PETER DE ELY, who, I apprehend from several circumstances, was elected Prior in April 1425: on the 24th of which month, he constituted *Robert Wetheringsfete* Archdeacon of *Ely*, *John Hales* one of the King's Justices, and *Richard Tretbarapp* Clerk, his Proxies in the Parliament which was to meet the last day of that month.<sup>5</sup> The same year the See of *Ely* became vacant by the death of Bp. *Fordham* on Nov. 19; and on Jan. 5, following, the Convent unanimously elected him for their Bishop:<sup>6</sup> but before he could be confirmed, Pope *Martin V*, by his Bull of Provision, translated *Philip Morgan* Bishop of *Worcester* to *Ely*. He continued Prior July 10, 1429:<sup>7</sup> And his Successor

30. WILLIAM WELLS Bac. Dec. seems to have been elected in 1430; on the 1st of October this year,<sup>8</sup> he constituted Proxies to appear for him, in a Cause depending in the Archbishop's Court of *Canterbury*. He enjoyed this Dignity above Thirty years; and was cited to Convocation held May 3, 1460.<sup>9</sup> After him,

31. HENRY PETERBOROUGH occurs Prior July 10, 1462;<sup>10</sup> and continued so till July 26, 1478, on which day he resigned;<sup>11</sup> having on Feb. 14th preceeding been struck with the palsy, and rendered incapable of discharging his office. Whereupon the Convent assigned him a yearly pension of 40*l.* for himself, his Chaplain, and Servants; with a Chamber in the Infirmary, and other advantages. He lived to Aug. 10, 1480, and then died. On his resignation,

32. ROGER WESTMINSTER, Sacrist of the Church, was elected Prior on July 28, 1478, and installed the next day.<sup>12</sup> He continued to administer the Sacrist's office five or six years after he became Prior; having, it seems, begun some great repairs about the Western Tower of the Church, before his election. In 1495, Oct. 12, he appointed Mr. *William Doughty* the Bishop's Official, and *Robert Colvyle* Cellerer, and *William Witlesey*, Monks of his Convent, to appear for him in Convocation, Oct. 19, and to excuse his

<sup>1</sup> Regist. Ep̃ Elien. A. fo. 129. <sup>2</sup> See Page 167. — & the Award itself at Page 27 of the Appendix. <sup>3</sup> Reg. Ep̃ Elien. B. fo. 134. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. fo. 116, 145. <sup>5</sup> Ib. <sup>6</sup> Angl. Sacr. v. i. p. 667. <sup>7</sup> Chart. vet. penes Dec. & Capit. fo. 122. <sup>8</sup> Regist. Ep̃ Elien. B. fo. 117, 146. <sup>9</sup> Regist. Gray, fo. 109. — This Prior, it is likely, died sometime in the year 1462, as I judge by the following Extract from Downham Court Rolls, in a MS of Bp. Wren, viz. "Priore de Ely mortuo, novus Prior distringitur ad faciendam fidelitatem." Rot. Cur. Downham 2 Edw. iv. [i. e. A. D. 1462.] <sup>10</sup> Regist. Gray, fo. 110. <sup>11</sup> Angl. Sacr. v. i. p. 672. <sup>12</sup> Ibid. p. 673; 685.



his absence on account of Sicknefs:<sup>1</sup> the same excuse he likewise sent, Jan. 15, in 1496-7.<sup>2</sup> He was Prior above 20 years; for I find that he, with the Convent, presented a Clerk to the Vicarage of *Meldreth*, Nov. 15, 1499.<sup>3</sup> He was succeeded by

33. ROBERT COLVILE, who was Prior Oct. 30, 1500; at which time the Church of *Ely* was visited by the Chapter of *Canterbury*.<sup>4</sup> He appears also to have been Prior Aug. 15, 1510; on which day he and the Convent presented a Clerk to the Vicarage of *Stapleford*;<sup>5</sup> and shortly after, as I conceive, he resigned his office; for

34. WILLIAM WITLESEY occurs Prior Sept. 27, 1510;<sup>6</sup> and again on Mar. 20, 1513:<sup>7</sup> and Mr. *Wharton* assures us, that he was Prior in 1515, when the Church was visited by Archbishop *Warham*.<sup>8</sup> However, there is room to doubt, whether it might not be another *William* who was Prior in 1515, namely,

35. WILLIAM FOLIOTT, the time of whose admission I find not; but he certainly was Prior in the beginning of the year 1516; as appears from Bishop *West's* Register,<sup>9</sup> in which is inserted the whole process of the election of a new Prior, on his resignation; to which election all the Monks were cited, (and among the rest *Robert Colvyle* and *William Witlesey*, who, I take it, were the two that had been Priors; and had resigned;) on March 29, 1516; on which day

36. JOHN COTTENHAM was elected Prior, and confirmed by Bishop *West*, April 1, 1516.<sup>10</sup> He died before the year 1522,<sup>11</sup> and was succeeded by

37. ROBERT WELLS, otherwise STEWARD, who was the last Prior of this Church: the former of these Names he probably took from the place of his birth, and the latter was his Family Name. In the year 1536, he was nominated with *William More* Bach. Decr. a Master in Chancery, and presented by Bishop *Goodrich* to the King, for one of them to be elected Suffragan Bishop; but the King made choice of the latter, who was accordingly consecrated by the title of Bishop of *Colchester*. When the King and Parliament, in the year 1539, had resolved on the suppression of Monasteries in general, as one necessary step towards a Reformation of Religion; our Prior readily complied with those measures; and not only persuaded the Monks of his own Convent, but was very active in bringing over other Abbots and Priors to surrender their Houses to the King. Accordingly on the 18th of November that year, he and the Monks of the Convent surrendered the whole site of the Monastery of *Ely*, with all their Goods and Chattels, and all Estates, Rents, Profits, and Revenues<sup>12</sup> thereto belonging, into the hands of the King's Commissioners for the King's use, by an Instrument sealed with the Convent Seal, and subscribed by their hands. After which the Prior and Monks had each of them Pensions assigned for life, or until they were provided for by some preferment, of as great or greater value than their Pensions. The late Prior had an appointment of 120*l.* a year; and was made Guardian of the Goods, Plate, Ornaments, and Furniture of the Church and Monastery left there by the Commissioners.

<sup>1</sup> Regist. Ep̃ Elien. B. fo. 120, 149. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. fo. 150, 198. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. fo. 157. <sup>4</sup> Angl. Sacr. v. i. p. 685. <sup>5</sup> Regist. Ep̃ B. fo. 186. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. <sup>7</sup> Ibid. fo. 187. <sup>8</sup> Ang. Sacr. v. i. p. 685. <sup>9</sup> Fo. 55, 56. <sup>10</sup> Ibid. <sup>11</sup> Angl. Sacr. v. i. p. 685. <sup>12</sup> The Annual revenues of the Priory were at this time computed at 1084*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* according to Dugdale; and 1301*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* according to Speed. Tanner's Notitia Monast. p. 35.

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THE  
H I S T O R Y  
AND  
A N T I Q U I T I E S  
OF THE  
CONVENTUAL and CATHEDRAL  
CHURCH of *ELY*.

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By JAMES BENTHAM, M.A.  
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RECTOR OF FELTWELL ST. NICHOLAS, NORFOLK,  
AND LATE MINOR CANON OF ELY.

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VOL. II.

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AN INVENTORY OF THE  
PLATE, JEWELS, and ORNAMENTS of the CHURCH,  
belonging to the late PRIORY at ELY,

Which were left in the custody of Mr. ROBERT WELLS Guardian there, after the Surrender of the Monastery into the King's hands, (made Nov. 20. 31 Hen. VIII.) exclusive of what had been taken away for the King's Use. — From a MS. in the Library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, Miscell. xx. p. 341.

*In the Vestrye, Jewells.*

**GILT PLATE;** *Inprimis, A pair of gret Candlesticks gilt, weying 80 unces. Item, a Pix gilt weying 17. A stonding Monsiral for the Sacrament with in a pynne of tre in the botom, 124. A Crofs gilt with a fote of coper, 94. One Crofs with a Staff weying 175 un. An other Crofs without Mary and John, with a Staff, 88. A gilt Chalice with a Patent enameled, 73. Six other Chalices with Patents, 124. Three pair of Sensers with Chaynes white, 123. Two gilt Crewetts, 13. A Crysmatory of letther, with 3 boxes of Silver not weyd. A Ball silver and gilt, 14. A Chalice and two Cruetts gilt 37. — GILT AND WHITE; A Holie Water-pot with a stick weying 51. A peyr of Candlesticks with a pece of wode in the fote of one of them, 71. Two white Basons, 80. Two Cruetts, 13. A Ship lacking a cover, 11. — In all, 1188 unces.*

*Ornamentes in the Vestrie.*

*Inprimis, A Sute of rede tissewe with three Coopes. Item, A Sute of course tissewe with thre Coopes sutable. A Sute of red velvet imbrodred with flowers. A Sute of rede velvet with small lyons of perle, with 2 Coopes sutable. Four Copes of red silke full of ymagerie. A Sute of old bawdkyn, red and grene, with 8 Copes sutable. 4 Copes of old bawdkyn. A Sute of white damaske imbrodred with Angels, and 11 Copes sutable. A Sute of old white silke with garters, and 2 Copes sutable. A Cope of white silke with jessy rotes and prophetes. A Cope of white bawdkyn with birds of gold. Two Copes of old white bawdkyn with offers of red tissewe. A Sute of old white bawdkyn mixte with flowers, and one Cope sutable. A Sute of blew velvet imbrodred with flowers, and 3 Copes sutable. A Cope of blew bawdkyn with lyons of gold and unicorns white. A Sute of old grene bawdkyn, with 2 Copes sutable. A Chefable of blew. A red Pall for the Sepulture. Two Vestments of white damaske with crosses. A Sute of black velvet with egles. Twenty Albes with ther apparels. Three Corporasse Cases with one Corporasse. One old Cope of diaper, silk. Four Copes of blew damaske with flowers. A Sute of blew bawdkyn with birds and crosses of gold, with 6 Coopes sutable. A Cope of blew bawdkyn with birds and beasts of gold. An old Cope of red velvet with 2 Tinnicles. A Sute of old yellow silke and 2 old Copes. A Sute of old black velvet with a Cope. A Tinnicle of blew tissew. A Sute of crymissen velvet, Bishop Wests gift. An Altar-Front of blew velvet imbrodred with Archangels. A Front of white damaske with roses. A Front of crymissen velvet, white lyons of pearle. A Front of yellow silk with gold. Eight old Stooles and 5 Phannans. An old Vestement of red tissew imbroidred with gold. A Sute of red velvet with offers and spred egles. Two white Tinnicles of damaske with flowers of gold. A single Vestement of grene velvet. Two Tinnicles of bawdkyn lyned with yellow silke. Thirty-seven Albes with th' Apparells.*



## HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES OF THE

*Twenty Albes without Apparells. A great Tapytt of red to lye afore the altar, with white roses and pomegarnetts. Another old blew Tapytt. A Front of red and grene bawdykin with swannes of gold. Five old single Albes. A Tinnicle of blew sarsenyt. Five Tinnicles and a Cheaseable of bawdykyn of diverse colors with strakes. Seven great Chestes.*

### *In Byshope Wests Chaple.*

*Item. A single Vestement of cloth of gold. A Vestement of clothe of gold, damaske wurke. A single Vestement of clothe of tissew. An Altar Clothe and a Fronte of clothe of gold. A Corporasse with 2 Cases of red and yellow bawdykyn. An Herseclothe of black damaske with a white crosse. A single Vestement of blew silke.*

### *In Byshope Alcoks Chaple.*

*An Altar Cloth of bawdkyn. A gilted Table upon the Altar. A Cheaseable of purple Satyn with a Cross of rede velvet and scalope shelles. A single Vestement of grene Velvet with flour deluces. A single Vestement of blew tissew with a rede Cross of tissew. A single Vestement of white bawdkyn with a Crosse of blew. An Altar Cloth of rede bawdkyn. A single Vestement of white damaske imbroidrede with lily potts.*

### *In the Quyer.*

*Two paer of Organs, and 6 Lether Stoles with iren to syt apon in the Quyer. Four great Laten Candlesticks before the base altar, and 2 other of iren. Two Altar Frontes, one of blew bawdkyn, and th'other of grene bawdkyn.*

### *To the Highe Altare.*

*A Fronte of bawdkyn imbrodred with swannes. Thirteen Altar Clothes good and bad. Two rede Tappets to lye afore the altar, with roses and flowres, and other of blew. A Pall of silke for an Altar. A standyng lecture of laten with an cgle. Two great Candlesticks of laten, and 2 little Candlesticks of laten.*

### *In Byshope Redmannes Chaple.*

*A single Vestement of grene damaske, with an Albe. An old dyaper Alter-Clothe. A Front of red silke, with a little Cheste.*

### *In the Lady Chaple.*

*A paer of Organs, with 2 latyn Candlesticks. An Altar-Front of rede countrefete bawdkyn. Two old Tapetts, one rede, th'other white. A paer of litle laten Candlesticks. A Vestment of white bawdkin. An Altar-pillow of tinson and 2 old Quysbins.*

### *In the Ladie Chaple Chamber.*

*A foldyng Table, 2 Formes, 3 Chestes, one Chair, 2 old Quysbins, Awndiarn, and a paer of Tongs. Two pullies of brassy, with 2 iren pynnes. An old Basyn and Ewer of pewter, and an hanginge Laver of laten. Two Quysbins of old silk. A single Vestement of blew velvet with the offers of gold. A Vestement of white damaske with lily potts, and an Altar Front of the same. A Vestment of white bawdkyn with lily potts. Four Cheasables of white silke with an Albe. A Vestement called the Lent Vestement. Certeyn Lynnen Clothes for the Lent. Five white Altar Clothes, 2 Towels, one of diaper. A Fronte for the Altar of white bawdkyn, with a frontlet of the same. Four Albes with th' Apparels. Two Corporasses with cases imbroidred. Certain Scrollles & Ph----ms. A Sawterboke with claspes of silver. A paynted Hanging for the Altar, with a Fringe for the same. A gret Chest and a hanging Lampe.*

AN ACCOUNT OF THE  
NEW FOUNDATION of the CHURCH of ELY  
by King HENRY VIII. A.D. 1541.

AFTER the Surrender of the Monastery of *Ely*, by the Prior and Convent of Monks ; the King's intention was, agreeable to the powers invested in him by Parliament, to erect and new-found the Church, for a Dean and eight Prebendaries, and other Ministers, to perform Divine Service therein : and to endow it out of the Revenues of the late dissolved Monastery. A plan of his whole design is still extant,<sup>1</sup> and probably was drawn up by the King's direction ; it contains the Names of the Dean, the eight Prebendaries, the eight Minor Canons, and of all other Members of the Church ; with their several Appointments and Stipends ; a provision is also made for Alms, Repairs of the Church and Manors, and for mending highways, and other charges and contingences ; amounting in the whole to the Sum of 995*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*  $\frac{1}{2}$ . — it is signed *Richard Ryche*, and was approved of by the King ; who by his Letters Patent dated Sept. 10, 1541, *Anno Regni* 33<sup>o</sup>. did grant his Royal Charter for erecting the Cathedral Church of the late Monastery of *St. Peter* and *St. Etheldreda* at *Ely*, into a Cathedral Church, by the name and title of *The Cathedral Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity of Ely*, to consist of one Dean a Priest, and eight Prebendaries Priests, with other Ministers necessary for the celebrating Divine Service therein. And did ordain the said Cathedral Church to be the Episcopal See of the Bishop of *Ely* and his Successors, with all the honours and privileges of an Episcopal See and Cathedral Church. And that the said Cathedral Church might be furnished and adorned with meet and proper Persons, suitable to their several places and degrees ; did constitute and appoint *Robert Steward* the late Prior, to be the Dean, and *Richard Coxe* S.T.P. the 1<sup>st</sup> Prebendary, *Matthew Parker* S.T.P. the 2<sup>d</sup> Prebendary, *William Maye* LL.D. the 3<sup>d</sup> Prebendary, *William Lyson* LL.D. the 4<sup>th</sup> Prebendary, *Giles Ayer* S.T.B. the 5<sup>th</sup> Prebendary, *John Cussons* the 6<sup>th</sup> Prebendary, *Robert Hamond* the 7<sup>th</sup> Prebendary, and *John Warde* the 8<sup>th</sup> Prebendary. And that the said Dean and Prebendaries be one Body Corporate, have perpetual succession, one common Seal, be the Chapter of the then Bishop of *Ely* and his Successors, and be called *The Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity of Ely* : And by that Name may sue and be sued ; and hold, occupy, and enjoy any Manors, Lordships, Lands, Tenements, Profits and Emoluments, as well Spiritual as Temporal, and all other things hereafter to be given or granted to them by the King, or his Successors, or by any other person whatsoever, according to Law. Moreover, for the furtherance of the King's design, he of his special grace and favour, did by this Charter give and grant unto them the whole Site of the late dissolved Monastery, with all the ancient privileges, liberties, and free customs of the same, and the whole

<sup>1</sup> Appendix, Numb. xxxiv.



whole Church there, with all the Chapels, Bells, Towers, Cloisters, Buildings, Houses, and Edifices, Grounds, Orchards, Gardens, Ponds, Vineyards, and all other Lands and Places, being within the site and precincts of the said late Monastery, or reputed as part or parcel thereof; to be holden of the King, his Heirs, and Successors, in pure and perpetual Alms. The King also grants to the Dean and Chapter, that the Dean, for the time being, may nominate and appoint, and for lawful cause expell and remove, all the inferior Officers of the Church: saving to himself, his Heirs, and Successors, the right and title of nominating and appointing the Dean, the eight Prebendaries, and the six Bedes-men to be maintained there by the King's alms; whenever and as often as their places become vacant by death or otherwise. And finally, the King grants, by these presents, to the Dean and Chapter, that they and their Successors shall have these his Letters Patent duly made and sealed with the Great Seal of *England*, without making any Fine, or paying any Fee great or small, for the same. This is the substance of the Charter of King *Henry VIII*, whereby he refounded the Cathedral Church of *Ely*.—And by other Letters Patent of the same Date, Sept. 10, 1541, the King endowed the Church with nearly the whole Revenues of the late Priory. Oct. 28 following the King constituted *Thomas [Goodrich]* Bishop of *Ely*, Sir *Robert Payton* Knight, *Philip Paris* and *John Goodrich* Esqrs. his Commissioners; signifying unto them, That whereas he had lately founded and erected a Cathedral Church in honour of the *Holy Trinity in Ely*, in the site and place of the late Priory; and for the maintenance of God's Service there, had ordained in the same a Dean, eight Prebendaries, eight Minor Canons, and other Ministers and Officers there;—And for the good establishment and continuance of the said foundation, had endowed the said Cathedral Church with divers Manors, Lands, Tenements and Possessions;—the King therefore willing that convenient Mansion-houses and places be appointed and assigned to the said Dean and Prebendaries, and other Ministers and Persons aforementioned; did therefore constitute and appoint them his Commissioners, with full power to any three or two of them, forthwith to repair unto the site of the late Priory there, and at their discretion, not only to assign and appoint to the Dean and Prebendaries their several Stalls in the Choir, and places in the Chapter-House; but also to appoint to them, and the Minor Canons, and other Ministers there named, to every of them according to their degrees, convenient Dwelling-Houses and Places, as far as the Buildings and Ground of the site of the said Priory did extend; in such manner that the Dean and Canons may have severally Houses convenient to inhabit, keep hospitality, and otherwise to dispose themselves according to the Ordinances to be prescribed to them: (provided they do not meddle with the Bishop's Mansion-House, being within the precincts of the said late Monastery, nor any part thereof;) and the rest of the Ministers to have places and dwellings to inhabit, and keep Household among themselves accordingly; and that they the Commissioners put the Dean and Canons, and the other Ministers and Persons abovenamed into possession of their several Houses, so by them assigned and appointed. Provided always, that the Minor Canons and other the said Ministers, except only the said Dean and Prebendaries, shall keep their Table and Com-  
mons together, according to the Ordinances to be prescribed to them.—And the Com-

Commissioners, or three or two of them, are required to certify in writing in parchment under their Seals, to the Chancellor, and Council of the Court of Augmentation of the Revenues of the Crown, of their doings in this behalf.—The Certificate or Return made by the Commissioners to the Court of Augmentation, I have not met with ;— but there is a Note added to this Copy of the Commission, written by Mr. *John Goodrich* one of the Commissioners, containing a short and imperfect account of their proceedings hereon : whereby it appears that not only the Dean and Prebendaries, had Houses and convenient offices and gardens appointed them ; but that the Minor Canons, Masters of the School, Singing-Men and most of the Officers in the Church, had Apartments and Rooms allotted them, according to their stations and degrees in the Church, within the precincts of the College.—The Refectory or Great Hall, was appointed for the Minor-Canons, Schoolmasters, and inferior Officers in common, to Dine and Sup in ;—and the Malt-garner was fitted up for the Grammar-School, with Apartments at the ends for the Master and Usher.

The Book of Statutes given to the Church by King *Henry VIII*, is dated June 20, 1544, and signed by his Commissioners *Nicholas [Heath]* Bishop of *Worcester*, *George [Day]* Bishop of *Chichester*, and Dr. *Richard Cox* Archdeacon of *Ely* ; and was by them sent to *Ely*, accompanied with a Letter dated June 23, to the Dean and Canons ; signifying the King's pleasure, that on the receipt thereof, they cause the same to be openly and distinctly read, in their presence, in the Chapter-house ; and that the Offices of all the other Ministers be read and declared unto them ; immediately after which, that every Man for himself, before all the company, swear to the observance of the same, according as by the said Statutes is prescribed. —By this last act, was fully compleated the Foundation of the Church of *Ely*, in its present form of Government, under a Dean and Chapter.

## DEANS of ELY.

1. **R**OBERT STEWARD, *alias* WELLES, M.A. the last Prior of this Monastery, who with the Monks of his Convent surrendered it to the King in 1539, had his reward, in being nominated in King *Henry VIII*'s Charter for new-founding the Church, the first Dean thereof, Sept. 10, 1541.—He seems to have been a Man who readily complied with all the changes of Religion made in the reign of King *Henry VIII*, and in the Reformation carried on in K. *Edward VI*'s time ; and as easily returned to the old Ceremonies and Doctrines of the Church of *Rome*, on Queen *Mary*'s accession to the Throne. He died Sept. 22, 1557, and was buried between two Pillars on the South-side of the Presbytery with this Inscription on Brass round the Grave-stone : “Hic jacet Magister ROBERTUS STYWARD, primus Decanus “ hujus Ecclesie Cathedralis Eliensis ; qui obiit 22 die Mensis Septembris, et in Anno “ Domini 1557.”—He bequeathed by his Will, or rather restored to the Church 286 Ounces of Silver Plate gilt, and some Vestments and Copes, which had been left in his hands as Guardian, at the time of the Surrender of his Monastery. He was succeeded by



2. ANDREW PERNE, D.D. who was born at *Bilney* in *Norfolk*, became Fellow of *St. Peter's* College in *Cambridge*, and was one of the Proctors of the University in 1546. Bishop *Goodrich* in 1549, presented him to the Rectory of *Walpole*, and the following year to the Rectory of *Pulham* in *Norfolk*. In 1551, he was Chaplain to King *Edward VI*, and one of his itinerary Preachers;<sup>1</sup> Nov. 8, 1552, was made Prebendary of *Westminster*; in the beginning of the year 1554, Master of his College; and in 1557 was promoted to this Deanery of *Ely*; he was also Rector of *Balsam* in *Cambridgeshire*. He served the Office of Vicechancellor of the University of *Cambridge* no less than five times; once before he was made Master of *Peter-House*, viz. in the year 1551; and four times afterwards, viz. in 1556, 1559, 1574, and 1580. He is reckoned among the Benefactors to the University, and to his own College in particular, in which he founded one Fellowship, three Scholarships, gave to it a very valuable Library; and founded a Librarian's place.<sup>2</sup>—In the latter part of his life, he was very much at *Lambeth Palace* with Archbishop *Whitgift*, who had a great regard for him, and treated him with all kindness; and there he died April 26, 1589; and was by the Archbishop's direction, decently buried in the Parish Church at *Lambeth*; and a Grave-stone was laid over him with an Inscription, which is now gone; but was in these words: “D. O. M. ANDREÆ PERNE, S. Th. Doctori, Cathedralis Ecclesiæ “*Elieusis* Decano, Collegii D. Petri in Academia Cantabrigiæ Magistro munifico, bene “merenti, virtute insigni, Literarum Mæcenati optimo; hoc Monumentum, Pietatis “et Amoris ergo, *Richardus Perne* Nepos posuit. Obiit 26 die Aprilis, A. D. 1589. “Scientia inflat: Charitas ædificat.”<sup>3</sup>

HIS Character has been variously represented; for though he is generally acknowledged to have been a Man of Wit and Learning, an excellent Governor of his College, and a great encourager of Learning; yet his compliance with all the changes of Religion, that happened in his time, gave occasion to his enemies to reflect on him, on that account. However, Dr. *Whitgift* (afterwards Archbishop of *Canterbury*,) had a personal esteem for him, and always lived on the most friendly terms with him; and on occasion of some reflections cast upon Dr. *Perne*, wrote thus in his vindication; “I know him to be a wise and learned Man; and howsoever the World judgeth of him, and of me for using his familiarity, (being by sundry means bound unto him, and knowing him very well;) yet the Day will come, when both they and we shall be known as we are.”<sup>4</sup> Not long after his death, a Character was given of him, by an Author in those times, in Answer to a Book written by *Gabriel Harvey* of *Saffron Walden*, who had written abusively of Dr. *Perne*, in respect of his compliance in Queen *Mary's* Reign: wherein is hinted the esteem the Archbishop had for him. “Dr. *Perne* is casked up in lead, and cannot arise to plead for himself: therefore I will commit this to Ink and Paper in his behalf: Few Men lived better, though like *David* and *Peter*, he had his Fall; yet the University had not a more careful Father this Hundred Years: And if on no other regard, but that a chief Father of our Commonwealth loved him, in whose House he died, he might have spared and forborn

<sup>1</sup> Strype's Life of A.Bp. Grindal. p. 7.  
<sup>2</sup> Whitgift, p. 5.

<sup>3</sup> Parker's ΣΙΛΕΤΟΣ Cantab.

<sup>4</sup> Strype's Life of A.Bp.

born him : His Hospitality was great, as hath been kept before or ever since, upon the Place he had, (being Master of *Peter-House*, and Dean of *Ely* :) and for his Wit and Learning, they that mislike, want the like Wit and Learning, or else they would have more judgment to discern it.”<sup>1</sup>

3. JOHN BELL, D.D. the third Dean of this Church, had been Fellow of *Peter-House* in *Cambridge*, and Proctor of the University in 1558. He was presented by Queen *Elizabeth* to the Rectory of *Fulbourn St. Vigor's* in *Cambridgeshire* in 1560; and was one of the Proctors of the Clergy of this Diocese in Convocation in 1562, when he subscribed, with the other Members of the Lower House, to the Original Draught of the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion, agreed upon in Convocation that year. About that time he became Chaplain to Bishop *Cox*, who collated him to the Sixth Prebendal Stall in this Cathedral Church in 1566;<sup>2</sup> to the Rectory of *Fen-Ditton* in the beginning of the year 1571; and to the Mastership of *Jesus College* in *Cambridge* in 1579. In 1582, he was elected Vicechancellor of the University; and in 1589, was promoted to this Deanery of *Ely*: — having held this Dignity a little more than two years, he died Oct. 31, 1591, and was buried in the Presbytery of this Cathedral Church, near his Predecessor Dean *Steward*, under a Grave-stone, thus Inscribed on a brass rim round the edges, the greatest part of which is now gone; “JOHANNES BELL Sanctæ Theologiæ Professor, quondam hujus Cathedralis “Ecclesiæ Decanus, obiit 31 die Octobris, Anno Domini 1591, Ætatis 61.”

4. HUMPHREY TYNDALL, D.D. was descended of a very ancient and noble<sup>3</sup> Family of his Name, seated at *Redenball* in *Norfolk*, and Son of Sir *Thomas Tyndall* Knt. of *Hockwold* in that County, where probably he was born about the year 1550. He was elected Fellow of *Pembroke-Hall* in *Cambridge*, Nov. 24, 1567, being then Bachelor of Arts; became Vicar of *Soham* in *Cambridgeshire* in 1577; Master of *Queen's College* in 1579; and was elected Vicechancellor of the University in 1585; the following year he was made Chancellor of the Cathedral Church of *Lichfield*, (being installed there, Apr. 14;) and Archdeacon of *Stafford*, about the same time; and at length was promoted to the Deanery of *Ely* in 1591, in the room of Dr. *Bell*: which Dignity having enjoyed about Twenty-three years, he died Oct. 12, 1614; and was buried in the Presbytery of this Cathedral Church, near his immediate Predecessor, under a Marble Grave-stone, having thereon his Effigies engraved in Brass,<sup>4</sup> with an

In-

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. p. 5. <sup>2</sup> Willis Cath. <sup>3</sup> Dr. Fuller (in his Church History, and Account of the University of Cambridge, p. 81.) takes notice of a Tradition concerning our Dean Tyndal; viz. “That in the reign of Q. Elizabeth he was profered by a Protestant Party in Bohemia to be made King thereof; which he refused, alledging, *That he had rather be Queen Elizabeth's Subject, than a foreign Prince.* — “True it is, says Fuller, that he was Son to Sir Thomas Tyndall of Hockwold in Norfolk; tho' how Bohemian Blood came into his veins, he knew not.” — But Blomefield (in his Hist. of Norf. vol. i. p. 491) gives us the Pedigree of this Family; and moreover informs us, “That the Manor of Scales in Hockwold in Norfolk, after the 13 of Hen. 6, was held by Anthony Woodville Lord Scales (See Dugd. Bar. of England;) and Elizabeth his Wife, Daughter and Coheir of the Lord Scales; and on the death of the said Elizabeth sans Issue, it descended to William Tyndall, (Ancestor of our Dean,) who was knighted at the Creation of Arthur Prince of Wales, and declared Heir of the Kingdom of Bohemia, in right of Margaret, his Great-Grandmother, Daughter to the Duke of Theife, and Niece to the King of Bohemia, the Wife of Sir Simon Felbrigg, whole Daughter and Heiress Alana, was married to Sir William Tyndall of Dean in Northamptonshire and Redenhale in Norfolk, &c. Grandfather of the aforesaid Sir William Tyndall of Hockwold, &c.”

<sup>4</sup> Plate xxv.



Inscription on a fillet round the verge, and another on a large Plate at the feet, and are as follow; "VMPHRIDUS TYNDALL, nobili Norfolciensium Tyndallorum  
"Familia oriundus, Decanus quartus istius Ecclesiæ, obiit 12 die Octob. Anno Salutis  
"Millesimo Sexcentesimo Decimo quarto, Anno Ætatis suæ Sexagesimo Quinto.

"Usquequo, Domine, usquequo.

"The Body of the woorthy and reverend Prelate VMPHRY TYNDALL Doctor of  
"Divinity, the Fourth Dean of this Church, and Master of Queenes Colledge in Cam-  
"bridge doth here expect the coming of our Saviour.

"In Presence, Government, good Actions, and in Birth,

"Grave, wise, couragious, noble was this Earth.

"The Poor, the Church, the Colledge saye here lyes

"A Friende, a Deane, a Maister, true, good, wise."

5. HENRY CÆSAR *alias* ADELMARE, D.D. was the third Son<sup>1</sup> of *Cæsar Adelmare*, Physician to Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, and born (probably near *Tottenham* in *Middlesex*, where his Father had a Seat,) in the year 1564. He was educated at *Baliol* College and at *St. Edmund-Hall* in *Oxford*, where he proceeded to his Degree of D.D. Nov. 6, 1595; and was sometime Rector of *Benington* in *Hertfordshire*. Queen Elizabeth presented him to the Rectory of *St. Christopher's*, *London*, Sept. 13, 1596; but he resigned that Living about July in the following year.<sup>2</sup> He became Prebendary of *Westminster* in Sept. 1609; and was made Dean of *Ely* in 1614. He held this Dignity above Twenty one years; and dying at *Ely* June 27, 1636, in the Seventy-second year of his Age, was there buried on the North-side of the Presbytery of the Cathedral Church, under a large Grave-stone of Marble, with this Inscription round the verge, 'Hic jacet HENRICUS CÆSAR Sacræ Theologiæ Professor, Quintus hujus Ecclesiæ Eliensis Decanus, de Stirpe illustri *Adelmariorum* Familiæ Nobilis *Trevesanæ Venetorum* in *Italiâ* oriundus.' And on the middle of the Stone, these Verses:

'CÆSARIS HENRICI manet hoc sub Marmore Corpus;

'Pars sua quæ melior, Spiritus astra colit.'

A Monument, with his Effigies in Stone,<sup>3</sup> was also erected to his Memory, against the adjoining Pillar, with the Inscription referred to below.<sup>4</sup> He gave by his Will 1000*l.* towards augmenting the Places of the Minor Canons, Singingmen, Choristers, Schoolmasters, &c. of the Church of *Ely*: And 1000*l.* more, to found two Fellowships and four Scholarships, in some College in *Cambridge*: the Scholars to be chosen

out

<sup>1</sup> Sir Julius Cæsar Master of the Rolls was the eldest, and Sir Thomas Cæsar one of the Barons of the Exchequer the second Son. <sup>2</sup> Newcourt's Repert. vol. i. p. 324. <sup>3</sup> Plate xxxiv. <sup>4</sup> "Effigies venerandi Viri *Henrici Cæsaris* aliàs *Adelmarii* SS Theologiæ Professoris, hujus Ecclesiæ 20 plus annis Decani vigilantissimi; Filii illustris Viri *Julii Cæsaris Adelmarii* Medicinæ Doctoris, Serenissimis *Angliæ* Reginis *Mariæ* et *Elizabethæ* principis Medici; Fratris Honoratissimi DD *Julii Cæsaris* Militis et Juris utriusque Doctoris, binis Regibus *Jacobo* et *Carolo* Magistri sacrorum Scriniorum, et e Consiliis secretioribus: De antiqua Stirpe *Adelmarii* Familiâ *Trevesanâ Venetorum* annis prope 400 illustri oriundi: Vita Cœlibis, Religione devoti, Humanitate candidi, Gravitate placidi, Charitate in hujus Ecclesiæ Chorum et Mulas Cantabrigienfes ultimo Testamento Munifici; præsentis vitæ Bonis fœlicis, futuræ spe fœlicioris, fruitione fœlicissimi. Qui 27 Junii A.D. 1636, placide in Domino obdormivit, annum Ætatis suæ agens 72. Qui et hoc memoriæ Sacrum meruit a D. *Carolo Cæsare* Milite, Agnato suo charissimo et Executore solo."

out of *Ely* School from time to time; and the Fellows to be chosen out of those Scholars as they became vacant.<sup>1</sup>

6. WILLIAM FULLER, D.D. was Son of Mr. *Andrew Fuller* of *Hadleigh* in *Suffolk*, at which place he was born, about the year 1580; and was educated in *Catherine Hall, Cambridge*; where he became Fellow. On Dec. 20, 1607, he was Ordained, on the Title of his Fellowship, both Deacon and Priest the same day, by Bishop *Heton* in *Ely* Cathedral:<sup>2</sup> He afterwards became Chaplain in ordinary to King *James I*; and also to King *Charles I*, who presented him July 16, 1628, being then D.D. to the Vicarage of *St. Giles* without *Cripplegate, London*;<sup>3</sup> and on July 14, 1636, promoted him to the Deanery of *Ely*.<sup>4</sup> This worthy Person in the beginning of the Rebellion in 1642, was sequestered from his Church of *St. Giles*, and was soon after deprived of his Deanery, being plundered, some time imprisoned, and spoiled of all, for his Loyalty to his Prince. After which, he went to *Oxford* to attend the King; and whilst he was there, Preached several times before his Majesty; and was incorporated D.D. of that University Aug. 12, 1645. About the middle of March following, he had a Grant from the King, of the Deanery of *Durham*; but was never instituted to it,<sup>5</sup> by reason of the iniquity of the times. After the surrender of *Oxford*, retiring to *London*, he there lived obscurely till the time of his death, which happened on May 12, 1659, being then 79 years of age: his Body, having been denied a place of rest in his own Church of *St. Giles*, was conveyed to *St. Vedast's Foster-Lane*, and there interred. A Monument was soon after erected there to his Memory, by his Daughter, *Jane* the Wife of Dr. *Brian Walton* Bishop of *Chester*. On his appointment to the Deanery of *Durham* in 1646,

7. WILLIAM BEALE, D.D. was nominated for his Successor in the Deanery of *Ely*; but having never been admitted to it, he cannot properly be considered as Dean of *Ely*: however, as he is frequently reckoned among the Deans; some account of

<sup>1</sup> Sir Charles Cæsar, Nephew to the Dean, being appointed his sole Executor, proved the Dean's Will, took upon him the execution thereof, and paid Debts and Legacies; keeping in his hands 2000*l.* to answer the above-mentioned charitable uses expressed in the Will: and made choice of *Jesus College* in *Cambridge* for his foundation, and placed therein the Fellows and Scholars. In 1639, by the importunity of Archbishop *Laud*, he was prevailed upon to lend the said 2000*l.* to his Majesty King *Charles I*; and had the Privy Seal for the same, and a Tally for repayment of Principal and Interest, out of the Augmentation Office. In the mean time, Sir Charles paid the Annuities to the Church of *Ely* and to the College, from 1636, to 1642; when dying intestate, Dame *Jane Cæsar* his Relict took out Letters of Administration, and paid the Annuities some years: after her decease her eldest Son Sir *Henry Cæsar* continued the payment of the Annuities; saving that in the times of the Usurpation, some part of the Annuities to the Church of *Ely*, viz. to the Minor Canons, Singingmen and Choristers, was not paid; the Church being considered as dissolved; the Schoolmaster and Usher still enjoying their Annuities; as also did the Fellows and Scholars of *Jesus College*. After the Restoration, Sir *Henry*, hoping he should have obtained the said 2000*l.* out of the Exchequer with full interest, did still voluntarily advance and pay these Annuities, and continued so to do till his death, which happened in the beginning of the year 1668; having in the mean time, laboured to get the Debt owing from the Crown, and was in hopes of effecting it, and gave directions, in his last sickness, that the same endeavours should be continued after his death; which was endeavoured, but could not be effected: and so this noble and piously intended Benefaction of Dean Cæsar, came to nothing. <sup>2</sup> Regist. *Heton*. <sup>3</sup> *Rymer's Fœd.* vol. xix. p. 42. <sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* vol. xx. p. 130. <sup>5</sup> *Kenet's Regist. and Chron.* p. 28.



of him may not be thought improper in this place. This worthy Person had been Fellow of *Pembroke-Hall, Cambridge*, and was much esteemed by Dr. *Laud*, at that time Bishop of *St. David's*, who promoted him in 1623 to the Archdeaconry of *Carmarthen* in *Wales*. He was made Master of *Jesus College* in *Cambridge* in 1632; but removed to *St. John's College*, on being elected Master thereof Feb. 20, 1633-4. He became Chaplain in ordinary to King *Charles I*; and was by his Majesty presented to the Rectory of *Pawlerspurie* in *Northamptonshire*, Oct. 27, 1637;<sup>1</sup> and was also Rector of *Cottingham* in the same County. On the breaking out of the Rebellion in 1642, he was very zealous in promoting his Majesty's Service, and particularly in collecting the University Plate and conveying it to the King: by which, and other acts of Loyalty, having rendered himself obnoxious to the prevailing Powers; he was seized in coming out of his Chapel, by a party of *Cromwell's* Soldiers, and with two other worthy Heads of Colleges, Dr. *Sterne* Master of *Jesus College*, and Dr. *Martin* of *Queen's*, carried off in triumph to *London*; where they were all committed to several Prisons, very barbarously treated, and turned out of all their preferments: and after a long and tedious confinement, being released on an exchange, Dr. *Beale* repaired to *Oxford*, where the Court then was; and was often called to preach before his Majesty. During the time of his being there, Dr. *Fuller* having a Grant of the Deanery of *Durham*, Dr. *Beale* was nominated to succeed him in that of *Ely*, and, it is said,<sup>2</sup> had a Grant of it from the King: but by the confusions of the times, neither the one nor the other were ever admitted to their intended Dignities.--- After the King's death, he went abroad, and attended King *Charles II* in his exile; and being appointed Chaplain to Lord *Cottingham* and Sir *Edward Hyde* (afterwards Earl of *Clarendon*,) who were sent Ambassadors to *Spain* in 1650, he attended them thither; and dying at *Madrid* Oct. 1, the following year, was obscurely buried in the Garden of the Ambassador's House; the *Spaniards* not allowing publick Burial to Persons of a different Religion.<sup>3</sup>

8. RICHARD LOVE, D.D. Master of *Corpus-Christi* or *Bene't College* in *Cambridge*, was made Dean of *Ely* soon after the Restoration of King *Charles II*, being instituted Sept. 6,<sup>4</sup> and installed Sept. 28, 1660. He was Son of *Richard Love* Apothecary of *Great St. Mary's* Parish in *Cambridge*, where he was born Dec. 26, 1596; and was afterwards admitted of *Clare-Hall*, became Fellow of that College, and served the Office of Proctor of the University in 1628. About that time he was made one of the Chaplains in Ordinary to his Majesty King *Charles I*; who presented him to the Rectory of *Eckington* in *Derbyshire* Oct. 27, 1629;<sup>5</sup> he was also Prebendary of *Tachbrooke* in the Cathedral Church of *Lichfield*, to which he was collated Oct. 12, 1631; and on the King's recommendation, being then D.D. was elected Master of *Corpus-Christi* College, and admitted to the same Apr. 4, 1632; and the following year was chosen Vicechancellor of the University. In the times of the Rebellion and Usurpation,

<sup>1</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. xx. p. 220.    <sup>2</sup> Kennet's Regist. and Chron. p. 28.    <sup>3</sup> Willis's Survey of *Ely Cath.* p. 370.    <sup>4</sup> Regist. Wren. — where the Deanery is said to have been vacant, — “per decellum venerabilis Viri Gulielmi Fuller S.T.P. ultimi Decani.”    <sup>5</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. xix. p. 137.

pation, he was, as *Fuller* observes, one of those four Heads of Colleges in *Cambridge*, who, at the general turning out of the Loyal Clergy from their Benefices, “ by the special favour of their Friends, and their own wary Compliance, continued in their Places:”<sup>1</sup> and was so well esteemed in those times, that the University made choice of him in 1649, for the Lady *Margaret’s* Professor. Though it was not long before he was in danger of losing all his Preferments, by refusing to subscribe to the *Engagement* in 1650, when the Independents were uppermost; although, it seems, he *had subscribed to live peaceably and quietly, and to give no disturbance to the Publick.*<sup>2</sup> He found means, however, to extricate himself from these difficulties; but whether by submitting to the Subscription or not, is uncertain; and so continued in his Mastership and other Preferments:<sup>3</sup> And at the Restoration, had the address to recommend himself to the Court; so that the King thought fit to promote him to the Deanery of *Ely*, to which he was instituted Sept. 6, 1660, as before observed. He lived not long to enjoy his new Preferment; but died about the latter end of January following; and was buried in the Chapel belonging to his College; without any Monument or Inscription. He was succeeded in this Deanery by

9. HENRY FERNE, D.D. the eighth Son of Sir *John Ferne* Knight, born at *York*, educated at *Uppingham* School in *Rutlandshire*, by the care of Sir *Thomas Nevil* of *Holt* in *Leicestershire*, who had then lately married his Mother: He was admitted of *St. Mary-Hall, Oxford*, in 1618; thence removed to *Trinity* College in *Cambridge*, where he was elected Fellow. Having taken his Degree of B.D. he was made Domestick Chaplain to Dr. *Morton* Bishop of *Durham*; with whom having continued about a year, he took the Living of *Marsham* in *Yorkshire*, which was offered him by his College; but quitted it soon, being presented, by his Brother-in-law *Henry Nevil* of *Holt* Esq; to the Rectory of *Medbourn* in *Leicestershire*; and not long after, the Bishop of *Lincoln* collated him to the Archdeaconry of *Leicester*. In 1642, he proceeded to his Degree of D.D.; and retiring to *Leicestershire*, when his Majesty came to *Leicester* on Friday July 22, he preached before him; and his Majesty was so well pleased with his Discourse, that he made him one of his Chaplains. In November following, he published his *Case of Conscience touching Rebellion*, with his Name to it; having the honour to be the first that printed any thing, as it is said, for the King: and soon after, being forced by the adverse Party, to quit *Medbourn*, he retired to *Oxford* for shelter. After the Battle at *Naseby* (June 14, 1645,) he went to *Newark* Garrison, and continued there, till it was surrendered up. Afterwards the King sent for him to the *Isle of Wight*, where he was the last of his Chaplains that preached before him. At the Restoration, he was made Master of *Trinity* College, being admitted to it Aug. 3, 1660; the same year was elected Vicechancellor of the University; in February following promoted to the Deanery of *Ely*;<sup>4</sup> chosen Prolocutor of the Convocation May 8, 1661; elected again Vicechancellor of *Cambridge* in November;

<sup>1</sup> Hist. of Cambridge, p.169.    <sup>2</sup> Masters’s Hist. of C.C.C.C. p.150.    <sup>3</sup> Ibid, & pag.151, 152. where may be seen a further account of him, and an Apology for his conduct in those trying times.    <sup>4</sup> Institutus 16 die Feb. — Regist. Wren.



ber; Consecrated Bishop of *Chester* in *Ely-House Holbourn*, on Shrove-Sunday Feb. 9; died at his Kinsman Mr. *Nevil's* House in *St. Paul's Church-yard*, Mar. 16, being the fifth Sunday after his Consecration, and the second year of his Vicechancellorship, aged 59 years; and was buried March 25, 1662, in *St. Edmund's Chapel* in *Westminster Abbey*; the whole Convocation of the Clergy, (as well Bishops, as others,) with divers of the Nobility, being present at his Funeral. Over his remains may be seen a Marble-Stone inlaid with Brass, on the verge of which, is the Inscription referred to below.<sup>1</sup> On his promotion to *Chester*, he was succeeded in this Deanery by

10. EDWARD MARTIN, D.D. who had been formerly Chaplain to Dr. *Laud* Bishop of *London* (afterwards Archbishop of *Canterbury*;) was Rector of *Houghton-Conquest* in *Bedfordshire*, and of *Conington* in the County of *Cambridge*; became Master of *Queens College* in *Cambridge* in 1631; and was elected one of the Proctors in Convocation, for the Clergy of this Diocese. When the Rebellion broke out in 1642, being very warm in defence of the Church of *England*, and the King's cause, he became very early a Sufferer on that account; and particularly, being most active and zealous in collecting the University Plate, and transmitting it to his Majesty; he, together with Dr. *Sterne* Master of *Jesus College*, and Dr. *Beale* Master of *St. John's*, were all seized at the same time, by a party of *Cromwell's* Soldiers, and carried Prisoners to *London*, where they were committed first to the Tower, and afterwards to divers other Prisons. Whilst under confinement, he was sequestered from his Livings, and turned out of his Mastership; and being thereby deprived of further means of subsistence, he suffered great hardships, and was reduced to extreme want: all which he endured with a peculiar constancy and firmness of spirit, more than five years.<sup>2</sup> Having at length obtained his liberty, he quitted his native Country, and fled into *France*, where chiefly he continued till the Restoration; and returning into *England* soon after his Majesty's happy arrival there, was restored to his Rectory of *Conington*, reinstated in his Mastership Aug. 3. 1660; and again returned one of the Proctors in the Convocation of Clergy, that met in *St. Paul's London* May 8, 1661. In the beginning of the following year, he had his Majesty's Letters Patent for the Deanery of *Ely*, dated Feb. 22, and was instituted to it Mar. 21,<sup>3</sup> but being ill at that time, was installed by Proxy, and died three or four days after, viz. Apr. 28,<sup>4</sup> 1662; and was buried in the Chapel of *Queen's College*, without any Monument or Memorial. His Successor in this Deanery, was

11. FRANCIS WILFORD, D.D. Master of *Corpus-Christi College* in *Cambridge*, a native of *Kent*, and admitted of *Trinity College* before 1631; where he became Fellow and Tutor in 1636.<sup>5</sup> In the beginning of the year 1646, he was instituted to the Rectory of *Holliwell cum Needingworth* in the County of *Huntingdon*. Soon after the Restoration, he was admitted to the Degree of D.D.; about the same time

<sup>1</sup> "Hic jacet Henricus Ferne, S.T.D. Johannis Ferne Militis (Civitati Ebor. a Secretis) Filius natus octavus, Collegii SS. Trinitatis Cantabr. Præfectus, simul et Cestrensis Episcopus. Sedit quinque tantum Septimanis. Obiit Martii 16, A.D. 1661. Ætatis 59." <sup>2</sup> See Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy, part ii. pag. 154. <sup>3</sup> Regist. Wren. <sup>4</sup> Willis's Cath. of Ely, p. 370. <sup>5</sup> Masters's Hist. of C.C.C.C. p. 160.

time became Chaplain in Ordinary to his Majesty; and through the interest of Dr. *Sheldon* Bishop of *London*, was made Master of *Corpus-Christi* College, by a Royal Mandate, June 29, 1661. The King also presented him to the Archdeaconry of *Bedford*,<sup>1</sup> to which he was admitted Apr. 9 following; and a few weeks after, promoted him to the Deanery of *Ely*, to which he was instituted on May 20,<sup>2</sup> and installed on the 30th of the same month, 1662. He was elected Vicechancellor of the University in 1665, and again in 1666: and dying in the second year of his Vicechancellorship, was buried in his own College Chapel July 18, 1667, without any Monument. Mr. *Masters* informs us,<sup>3</sup> He is reported by Tradition to have been a Person of stately Deportment, and of an arbitrary Temper: but observes also that *Lloyd* has drawn his Character in the following terms; "He was well seen in the Statutes of the University, the Canons of the Church, and the Laws of the Land; a good Scholar, and a strict Governor, able to instruct Men to do well, and to restrain them from doing ill; He struggled much with bad Manners, and sad Times, wherein in promoting His Majesty's service, he was discreet, close, and active; and did as the Gladiators used to do καλῶς τίπειν, honeste decumbere"<sup>4</sup>

12. ROBERT MAPLETOFT, D.D. born in the beginning of the year 1610, at *North-Thoresby* in *Lincolnshire*, (where his Father Mr. *Henry Mapletoft* was many years Rector,) was educated at *Louth-School*, and thence admitted of *Queen's College* in *Cambridge*; when he had taken the Degree of Bachelor of Arts, he removed to *Pembroke Hall*, and was there made Fellow; and became also Chaplain to Bishop *Wren*. In 1644, being then B.D. he was ejected from his Fellowship, for not taking the Covenant. After which he retired, and lived privately among his Friends, and particularly with Sir *Robert Shirley* in *Leicestershire*, where he became acquainted with Dr. *Sheldon*, afterwards Archbishop of *Canterbury*. On the Restoration he returned to *Cambridge*, and was reinstated in his Fellowship; and was installed Sub-Dean of *Lincoln* Aug. 23, 1660; was made Prebendary of *Clifton* in the same Church; and became Rector of *Clayworth* in *Nottinghamshire*, about the same time; which Living he afterwards exchanged for the Vicarage of *Seham* in *Cambridgeshire*. In 1661, he resigned his Fellowship; in 1664, was elected Master of *Pembroke Hall*; and at length promoted by the King to the Deanery of *Ely*, to which he was instituted Aug. 7, 1667.<sup>5</sup> He lived very hospitably at *Ely*, and wherever else he resided, and was esteemed for the many pious and charitable acts he did in his lifetime; and at his death bequeathed to the University 100*l.* for the use of the Publick Library; some Lands to *Queen's College* and *Pembroke Hall*, for a Catechetical Lecture; 100*l.* to poor Widows, chiefly of Clergymen; His benefactions to the Church of *Ely* were, to the Dean and Chapter about 400 acres of Wash-land in *Coveney*, for the increase of the Singing-Men's Stipends, and on condition that they should frequent early Prayers in the Cathedral: he also bequeathed to the Church of *Ely*, his Library of Books,

<sup>1</sup> Vacant by the promotion of Dr. John Hacket to the See of Covent. and Lichf. Kennet's Regift. and Chron. p. 657. <sup>2</sup> Regift. Wren. <sup>3</sup> Hist. of Corpus Christi Coll. pag. 162. <sup>4</sup> Memoirs. p. 615. <sup>5</sup> Regift. Laney.



Books, and 100*l.* more towards fitting up a place to receive them, and furnishing it with more Books; to each of the Prebendaries a Ring of 20*s.* to each Minor Canon 20*s.* to each Schoolmaster 20*s.* to each Singingman and Virger 10*s.* and to the Choristers 5*s.* a piece. He died at *Pembroke Hall* Aug. 20, 1677, and was buried according to his desire, in a Vault in the Chapel, near the Body of Bishop *Wren*, the Founder of it, his honoured Friend and Patron. He was succeeded in this Deanery by

13. JOHN SPENCER, D.D. Prebendary of this Church. He was born at *Bocton* under *Bleane* in *Kent*; educated at the King's School at *Canterbury*, and thence admitted of *Corpus Christi* or *Bene't College* in *Cambridge*, to a Scholarship of Archbishop *Parker's* foundation, Mar. 25, 1645.<sup>1</sup> Having taken his Degrees in Arts, he was elected Fellow of the College about the year 1655, and soon after entering into holy Orders, was made one of the University Preachers; and proceeded in his Degree of B.D. in 1659. As he was admitted, came into his Fellowship, and kept possession of it during the Usurpation, it is very probable that he followed the example of Dr. *Love* at that time Master of the College, who is said to have acquiesced in most of the measures taken in those times of confusion, without any wise approving them; and that these were Mr. *Spencer's* principles, and were sufficiently known to be so, seems the more likely, as he was appointed to Preach the University Sermon at *St. Mary's* on June 28, 1660, the Day of publick Thanksgiving to God, for the happy Restoration of his Majesty to his Kingdoms.<sup>2</sup> In 1665, he proceeded in his Degree of Doctor in Divinity; and two years after, was presented by his College to the Rectory of *Landbeach* in *Cambridgeshire*, to which he was instituted July 23, 1667; and was unanimously elected Master of his College Aug. 3, following; and the next Month Sept. 5, was preferred by the King to the Archdeaconry of *Sudbury*, vacant by the promotion of Dr. *Sparrow*, to the See of *Exeter*. The King also in 1672, gave him a Prebend in this Church of *Ely*, in the room of Dr. *Pearson* promoted to the See of *Chester*; and five years after advanced him to the Deanery of *Ely*, on the death of Dr. *Mapletoft*, to which he was instituted in Sept. 1677. He was esteemed one of the greatest Scholars and Divines of the Age in which he lived;<sup>3</sup> and was a most liberal Benefactor to his own College, upon which he settled by Deed of Gift, an Estate of above 200*l.* yearly value, for the augmentation of the Mastership, Fellowships, Scholarships, and various other purposes; besides considerable legacies left to it by his Will; in which he also gave to the Church of *Ely* 200*l.*; half of which he ordered to be laid out in building a comely Font in the Cathedral, which was accordingly executed in fine Marble, and curiously wrought, with this Inscription round it, "*Legatum JOHANNIS SPENCER, S. T. P. Decani bujus Ecclesiæ A.D. 1693.*"<sup>4</sup> He

<sup>1</sup> Masters's Hist. of Corpus-Christi Coll. pag. 163. <sup>2</sup> Printed at Cambridge by Field, 1660. <sup>3</sup> See Kennet's Regist. & Chron. p. 351. <sup>4</sup> His Book entitled *De Legibus Hebræorum ritualibus, et eorum rationibus Libri tres*, in 2 Tom. Fol. Cant. 1685, is a capital Work, and greatly and justly admired; and has been since reprinted several times, both at home and abroad: A more particular account of this, and his other learned Works; as also of his Benefactions and Charities, may be seen in Mr. Masters's Hist. of Corpus-Christi College. pag. 167, 168, 169, 170; — and also in *Biographia Britannica*, under the Article SPENCER. <sup>4</sup> Plate XXXV.

He likewise bequeathed 50*l.* and the Furniture of his Deanery to the Minor Canons and Singingmen, with Legacies to the Virgers, Choristers, &c. And 20*l.* to the Poor of the two Parishes in *Ely*. He died at his Lodge in *Corpus-Christi* College, May 27, 1693, and was interred in the Chapel there, near his immediate Predecessor Dr. *Wilford*, under a plain Stone of black Marble, with an Inscription upon it, as below.<sup>1</sup>

14. JOHN LAMB, M.A. was probably born in *London*, where his Father was a whole-sale Linen-Draper in *Cornhill*: he was educated at - - - - - School; and admitted of *Sidney-Suffex* College in *Cambridge*, where he took his Degree of B.A. in 1668; and that of M.A. in 1672: became Rector of *Whethamsted* in *Hertfordshire*; and Chaplain in ordinary to King *William* and Queen *Mary*; by whom he was nominated and presented to this Deanery June 20, 1693: in which Presentation their Majesties will and command, that their Presentee be admitted Dean, notwithstanding his not having taken the Degree of D.D. B.D. or LL.D. according to the Statutes of the Church: signifying their royal pleasure that the Statutes be changed in that respect, for this turn only; agreeably to the Power reserved to them in the said Statutes. He was accordingly instituted and admitted by the Bishop June 22, and installed Dean the next day June 23, 1693: and soon after was created D.D. He died at *Ely* Aug. 10, 1708; and was buried in the Chancel of *Whethamsted*, where he was Rector; with only this short Inscription on his Grave-Stone; "J. L. ob. 10 die Augusti, Anno Dom. 1708. Ætat. suæ 60."<sup>2</sup>

15. CHARLES RODERICK, D.D. was born at *Bunbury* in *Cheshire* about the year 1650; received the first part of his Education at *Eton* School; thence admitted Scholar of *King's* College in *Cambridge*, in 1667, and 3 years after Fellow of the same; was afterwards Usher of *Eton* School, and made Head Master thereof in 1682. In 1689, he was created LL.D. and on Sept. 4, that year, elected Provost of *King's* College; and the next Month proceeded by Royal Mandate to the Degree of D.D. In 1691, he had a royal presentation to the First Prebendal Stall in this Church, (vacant by the promotion of Dr. *Moore* to the Bishoprick of *Norwich*;) to which he was admitted Aug. 12, that year. He was also presented by Lord *Townshend* to the Rectory of *Raynham* in *Norfolk*; which he quitted for the Sine-Cure Rectory of *Milton* near *Cambridge*, to which he was instituted Apr. 12, 1692. On the death of Dean *Lamb*, he was by Queen *Anne* promoted to this Deanery, to which he was admitted, and installed Dean the same day, Oct. 8, 1708. He died on Lady-Day 1712, in the 62d year of his Age, and was buried in the Library Vestry on the South-side of *King's* College Chapel, with the underwritten Epitaph,<sup>3</sup> on a Mural Monument of White Marble adjoining.

## 16. ROBERT

<sup>1</sup> "Hic jacet, qui magnum adeo fui apud Bonos et Rempublicam literariam reliquit desiderium, Vir rarissimæ Munificentiaë pariter ac Eruditionis JOHANNES SPENCER S. T. P. Ecclesiæ *Elenfis* Decanus, Archidiaconus *Sudburienfis*, et hujus Collegii Præfectus; qui obiit 27 die Maii, A.D. 1693, Ætatis 63, Præfecturæ 26." <sup>2</sup> On another Stone is an Inscription for his Wife, *Elizabeth* Daughter of Dr. *Henry Killigrew*, of the ancient Family of the *Killigrews* of *Cornwall*, who died Oct. 28, 1701. *Salmon's Hist. of Hertfordshire*. pag. 147. <sup>3</sup> "Hic situs est CAROLUS RODERICK S. T. P. *Etonæ* Gymnasiarchus 1682; quem Discipuli peramanter observaverant; jam Socii, non immemores beneficiorum, liberi, nec cujusdam Dominationi parentes, Præpositum uno suffragio Elegerant Anno 1689.



16. ROBERT MOSS, D.D.<sup>1</sup> born, about the year 1667, at *Gillingham* in *Norfolk*, was the eldest Son of *Robert Moss*, a Country Gentleman of good circumstances who lived at *Postwike* in the same County, and occupied his own lands; the first part of his Education was at *Norwich School*; whence he was removed to *Cambridge* and admitted of *Benet* or *Corpus-Christi* College, Apr. 19, 1682; and having taken his Degree of Bachelor of Arts in the beginning of 1686, was the same year chosen Fellow of the College; in which station he continued many years, and was engaged in the office of a Tutor in the College: he distinguished himself in the mean-time as an Academick of the first class, being accounted one of the most ingenious and acute Disputants in the Schools, as well as one of the best Preachers<sup>2</sup> in the University. In 1696, he proceeded in his Degree of B.D. and so sensible was the University of his merit, that he missed of the Orator's Place, (for which he was a Candidate, and confessedly furnished with every proper talent and accomplishment,) but by a very few votes. His first call from the University was to the Preacher's place of *Gray's Inn, London*, into which he was chosen by that honourable Society in 1698; and the following year was appointed Preacher-Assistant at *St. James's, Westminster*, by Dr. *Wake* then Rector, (afterwards Archbishop of *Canterbury*,) with the concurrence of the Vestry; and soon after was made Chaplain in ordinary to King *William*: he also continued in the same station under Queen *Ann*, and when her Majesty visited *Cambridge* in 1705, he attended her in that capacity, and she was pleased to confer on him the Degree of D.D. In 1708, the Parishioners of *St. Laurence Jewry* made him an offer of their Tuesday-Lecture-ship, on the resignation of Dr. *Stanhope*; which though deemed a post of honour, rather than considerable for it's endowment, on account of several eminent Persons that had held it, he accepted; and continued to support the credit and reputation thereof many years. On the death of Dr. *Roderick*, the Queen promoted him to the Deanery of *Ely*, to which he was instituted Apr. 30,<sup>3</sup> and installed May 16, 1713; the following year, Dr. *Robinson* Bishop of *London* collated him to the Rectory of *Gelston* in *Hertfordshire*; which though a small Living in respect of profits, was very acceptable to him, as it afforded an agreeable retirement, and convenient resting-place in his passage from *London* to *Ely*; especially after his constitution begun to be impaired by many and severe returns of the Gout; which distemper, having seized him very early in life, in the latter part of it increased so as to occasion almost a total disuse of his limbs; and it was feared would, in a little time more,

have

1689. *Anna Regina* ad remunerandum promptissima, Decanum *Eliensem* constituit 1708. Scholam, quam invenit florentem, cumulatè auxit; in Philologis versatissimus edocuit pueros; viriles animos præceptis, doctrinâ, exemplo, lenitè formavit: Collegium hoc, multis nominibus celebrandum, nemini non acceptissimus administravit; de proventu illius, de dignitate, de concordia, probitate et literaturâ, plurimum sollicitus: Ecclesiam æmulo conatu fovit & honestavit, commodis ejus & famæ impensius consuluit, dissidii causas nativo candore & prudentiâ pacificus sopivit: cuicunque fortunæ par & æqualis fuit; integritate Vitæ, suavissimis Moribus, singulari Humanitate & Eruditione feliciter instructus. Natus est *Bunburie* in Com. *Cesariæ*: Obiit Mar. 25, 1712, Anno Ætatis 62."

<sup>1</sup> This Article is chiefly extracted from Dr. *Snape's* Preface to Dr. *Moss's* Sermons printed after his decease in viii vols. 8vo. 1732; — Also from the account given of Dr. *Moss* by Mr. *Masters*, in his Hist. of *Corpus-Christi* College 1753, 4<sup>to</sup>. p. 347. — And likewise from the Supplement to *Biographia Britannica*, under the Article *Moss*. p. 132 — In all which places, a fuller account, and a great and deserved Character is given of this worthy Dean. <sup>2</sup> He was ordained Deacon, by Dr. *Lake* Bishop of *Chichester*, at *London* Dec. 26, 1688; and Priest, by Dr. *Tenison* Bishop of *Lincoln*, at *Bugden*, Sept. 21, 1690. <sup>3</sup> Regist. Moore.



have impaired his Senses and Memory, had not Death set him free March 26, 1729, in the 63d year of his Age. He was buried on the North-side of the Presbytery in this Cathedral Church, under a black Marble Stone, with only this short Inscription on it, "ROBERTUS MOSS S.T.P. Decanus Eliensis obiit 26 Martii, 1729, Ætatis 63."

17. JOHN FRANKLAND, D.D. was Brother of Sir *Thomas Frankland*, Bart. and youngest Son of Sir *William Frankland* of *Thirkleby* in *Yorkshire*, by *Arabella* Daughter of *Henry Bellasis* Esq; eldest Son of *Thomas* Lord Viscount *Falconberg*. He received his first Grammar-learning at *Coxwold* in his native County of *York*; and for a short time finished it at *Eton* School; whence he removed to *Sidney-Suffex* College in *Cambridge*; where in 1700, he was made Fellow. In 1703, he was Senior Proctor of the University; and in 1712, created D.D.; sometime before which, he had been presented to the Rectory of *St. Stephen's* Church in the City of *Bristol*. In 1723, he was promoted to the Deanery of *Glocester*; and in 1727, made Master of *Sidney-Suffex* College; which making his removal to *Ely* from *Glocester*, more eligible, he got that exchange on the death of *Dr. Moss*; and was admitted Dean of *Ely* April 28; and installed May 22, 1729: but continued in that station only one year, and three months; when dying at *Bristol* Sept. 3, 1730, he was buried in the Chancel of *St. Stephen's* Church in that City; where an elegant Mural Monument of white Marble is erected to his Memory, with this Inscription: "Near this Place lies the Body of JOHN FRANKLAND D.D. 3d Son of Sir *William Frankland* of *Thirkleby* in *Yorkshire*, Bart. sometime Dean of *Glocester*, afterwards of *Ely*; Master of *Sidney* College in *Cambridge*, and 22 years Rector of this Parish. He married *Mary* the Daughter of *William* and *Sarah Turton* of this City; by whom he left Issue one Son, *John*. He died Sept. 3, 1730, Ætat. 56."

18. PETER ALLIX, D.D. a native of *Alencon* in the Kingdom of *France*, was Son of Mr. *Peter Allix* a very learned and pious Divine, sometime Minister of the Reformed Church at *Rouen*, and afterwards of *Charenton* near *Paris*, the most considerable Church of the Reformed, in that Kingdom: who on the revocation of the Edict of *Nantz*, left *France*, about the year 1685 or 1686, and brought over his Family with him, and settled in *England*. His eldest Son *Peter* was then about Five years old; and some time after, was sent to the *Charter-House* School, *London*, where he received the first part of his Education; and thence was admitted of *Queens's* College, *Cambridge*; where having taken his Degree of B.A., he was collated by Bishop *Patrick*, to a Fellowship of *Jesus* College, Mar. 2, 1704-5. He was ordained Deacon May 6, following, and Priest, May 19, 1706. Bishop *More* conferred on him, in February 1712-3, the united Vicarages of *Swafham* St. *Cyriac*, and *Swafham* St. *Mary's* in *Cambridgeshire*; and in 1724, Apr. 2, he was instituted to the Rectory of *Dry-Drayton* in the same County, on the Presentation of *Elizabeth* Dutchess Dowager of *Bedford*: but that Living he resigned in February following; being then presented to the Rectory of *Castle-Camps* in *Cambridgeshire*, by the Governors of the *Charter-House*. On the vacancy of the Deanery of *Ely*, by the death of Dean *Moss*, it was generally expected, that he would then have been his Successor; but *Dr. Frankland*

Dean



Dean of *Glocester*, being at length fixed on for *Ely*; Dr. *Allix* succeeded him in that Deanery; and in little more than a year after, on Dr. *Frankland's* death, succeeded him likewise at *Ely*; where he was installed Dean Nov. 21, 1730. In this station he continued above twenty seven years: and in the latter part of his time, a Survey having been taken of the general state of the Fabrick of this Cathedral Church, by a very skilful Architect;<sup>1</sup> some great Defects were discovered, in the most essential parts of the Building, and particularly in the Dome and Lantern over the Choir, which were found in such imminent danger, by the decay of the main Timbers, which supported them; that it was unanimously agreed upon in Chapter, to set about the Repairs immediately: Accordingly, this great and chargeable Work was soon after begun under the direction of the same Architect who had made the Survey, and was carrying on at the time of his death, which happened on Jan. 11, 1758, in the 79th year of his Age. He was buried, by his own direction, in the Church-Porch at *Castle-Camps*: and a black Marble placed over his Grave, with only this short Inscription; “ Hic jacet JOHANNES PETRUS ALLIX, S.T.P. Natus *Alencomiensis*, Affectu autem verè *Anglus*; hujus Ecclesiæ per Annos 33, Rector indignus. Obiit “ 11 Jan. Anno Domini 1758, Ætatis 79. — Plura dici noluit Vir Optimus.”

19. HUGH THOMAS, D.D. born in *Pembrokeshire*, and educated at the Grammar School in *Pembroke*, was admitted of *Christ College* in *Cambridge* A.D. 1724; after taking his Degree of B.A. in 1728, he was elected Fellow of that College, and proceeded to his Degree of M.A. in 1731: He was afterwards several years Chaplain to Archbishop *Hutton*, by whom he was preferred in the Church and Diocese of *York*: Feb. 18, 1754, he was elected Master of *Christ College*; and the same year proceeded to his Degree of D.D.; and the following year was made Chaplain to his Majesty; who promoted him to this Deanery, to which he was instituted and admitted July 15, 1758, and installed the same day. I cannot conclude this article, without observing; That the Repairs of this Church, just begun in his Predecessor's time, have ever since been carried on with vigour; and that during the time of the present Dean, more has been done, with the concurrence of the Prebendaries, towards preserving and improving the venerable Fabrick of this Cathedral, in the Dome, and Lantern, the Roof and Vaulting of the Presbytery, and Side Isles thereof, than in any one Century since the Reformation; besides the particular great Work, at this time carrying on, by the liberal assistance of the Bishop,<sup>2</sup> in removing the Choir to the East-end of the Church, and otherwise adding to the magnificence of the whole.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Essex of Cambridge.    <sup>2</sup> See page 214.

ELY, May 19, 1770.

P R E-

## PREBENDARIES of ELY. The First Stall.

1. **R**ICHARD COX, D.D. Archdeacon of *Ely*, and Chaplain to King *Henry VIII*, was nominated the First Prebendary of this Church, by that King's Foundation Charter, dated Sept. 10, 1541: but was deprived of this, and all his other preferments, in the beginning of Queen *Mary's* reign; fled beyond Sea, and continued abroad the remainder of her reign; and returning on Queen *Elizabeth's* accession to the Throne, was made Bishop of *Ely*.<sup>1</sup>

2. JOHN BOXALL, D.D. was installed in this Prebend, in 1554. He was made one of the Principal Secretaries of State, under King *Philip* and Queen *Mary*; and by them promoted to a Prebend of *St. Paul's London*, made successively Dean of *Peterborough*, *Norwich*, and *Windsor*, and constituted Register of the Order of the Garter: he was also Archdeacon of *Ely*: but deprived of all by Queen *Elizabeth* in 1559: and was succeeded in this Prebend, by

3. JOHN WARNER, M.D. *Regius* Professor of Physick, Warden of *All-Souls* College in *Oxford*; Archdeacon of *Cliveland*; and Prebendary of *Winchester*. He had been deprived of his Wardenship in Queen *Mary's* reign; but was restored to it in 1559; and the same year was promoted by Queen *Elizabeth* to the Deanery of *Winchester*. He died at *London*, Mar. 21, 1564-5, and was buried at *Great-Stanmer* in *Middlesex*. His Successor was

4. JOHN PARKER, M.A. Rector of *Fen-Ditton* in *Cambridgeshire*. He was collated to the Archdeaconry of *Ely* Oct. 21, 1568; and to the Rectory of *Stretham* in this *Isle*, Sept. 24, 1570; and in Jan. following resigned *Fen-Ditton*. He died May 26, 1592, and was buried in *Stretham* Church within the Rails of the Communion-Table, with an Inscription on his Grave-Stone, as below.<sup>2</sup>

5. JOHN PALMER, M.A. Fellow of *St. John's Coll. Cambridge*, and Chaplain to Queen *Elizabeth*, was presented to this Prebend by her Majesty, June 5, 1592; and at the same time to the Archdeaconry of *Ely*: was made Master of *Magdalen* College

<sup>1</sup> See pag. 192; where having omitted his entire Epitaph, when first put on his Stone, (as communicated to me by the late Dr. Willis,) I shall supply it here:

“ Hæc fermè moriens fatus est:  
Vita caduca vale, salveto Vita perennis:  
Corpus terra tegit, Spiritus alta petit.  
In terra Christi Gallus Christum resonabam:  
Da, Christe, in cœlis te sine fine sonem.

Ricardus Cox præstanti Ingenio, multiplici Doctrina insignis, duobus Christianissimis Regibus, primum Henrico VIII, deinde Edwardo VI, cujus et Institutor fuit, - - \* ab Maria autem regnante in exilium Religionis ergo missus: post quinquennium ab Elizabetha Regina restitutus: mox hujus Ecclesiæ Antistes factus est; quam quidem Dignitatem, cum viginti duos Annos honorificè tenuisset, Octogesimo suæ Ætatis Anno, obiit 22 die Julii, A.D. 1581.”

<sup>2</sup> “ Hic jacet Johannes Parker, qui prefuit huic Ecclesiæ 22 annos, singulari laude et — e omnium. Fuit idem Archidiaconus Eliensis, et unus e Canonicis; — utraque Academia honorum Titulis insignitus. Obiit 26 Maii, Anno Ætatis sue 59, et A.D. 1592.”

\* Capellanus, or some other Word omitted.



College in 1595, and Dean of *Peterborough* in 1597. He resigned his Mastership, Archdeaconry, and Deanery, some years before: but kept possession of this Prebend till his death, about Nov. 1614.

6. DANIEL WIGMORE, B.D. one of the Minor Canons of this Cathedral, was collated by Bishop Andrews, to this Stall, Nov. 26, 1614; he held his Minor Canonry with his Prebend, till his death; but quitted this Stall in March 1615-6, for the second Stall, in exchange with

7. JOHN BOIS, B.D. who had been formerly Fellow of *St. John's* College, *Cambridge*; and was then Rector of *Boxworth* in *Cambridgeshire*; a very eminent and learned Divine; one of the Translators of the Bible in King *James's* reign; and assisted Sir *Henry Savile* in his edition of *St. Chrysostom's* Works. He died Jan. 14, 1643-4, in the 84th year of his Age, and was buried in the Cathedral, without any memorial.<sup>1</sup>

8. JOHN MONTFORT, D.D. Canon of *St. Paul's, London*, and Rector of *Therfield* and of *Tewing*, both in *Hertfordshire*, was collated to this Stall on the death of Mr. *Bois*; but died in March 1651-2; and was buried at *Tewing*.

9. EDMUND MAPLETOFT, M.A. Rector of *Downham* in this *Isle*, and Archdeacon of *Ely*, was collated to this Prebend Mar. 12, 1651-2; and died in December following.

10. STEPHEN HALL, B.D. Fellow of *Jesus* College, *Cambridge*, and Vicar of *Fordham*, was collated to this Prebend Dec. 20, 1652; but not installed till Sept. 22, 1660. He died the following year, viz. on Aug. 18, 1661; and was buried in the Chapel of *Jesus* College.

11. JOHN PEARSON, D.D. Master of *Jesus* College in *Cambridge*, having resigned the Fifth Prebendal Stall, Oct. 9, 1661; was the same day collated by the Bishop to this. He was admitted Master of *Trinity* College, Apr. 14, 1662; and afterwards promoted to the See of *Chester*, to which he was consecrated Feb. 9, 1672-3; sufficiently known in the learned World, by his excellent Exposition on the Creed, and his other Works.<sup>2</sup>

12. JOHN SPENCER, D.D. Archdeacon of *Sudbury*, and Master of *Bene't* College in *Cambridge*, was presented to this Prebend by the King; and instituted to it by the Bishop Feb. 17, 1672-3. He was afterwards promoted to the Deanery of this Church, and installed Dean, Sept. 19, 1677.<sup>3</sup>

13. JOHN MOORE, M.A. Chaplain to the Lord Chancellor *Finch*, having obtained a Royal Presentation to this Prebend, as belonging to the Crown, (*jure prærogative*;) on the promotion of Dr. *Spencer* to the Deanery; exhibited it to Bishop *Gunning*, then at *Ely*, on Sept. 18, 1677. But the Bishop did not think fit to institute him on that title; alledging that the right of collating to it, belonged to him, by

<sup>1</sup> See a more particular account of his Life, in *Biographia Britannica*, under the Article *Bois*.

<sup>2</sup> A more full account of this learned Bishop, his Writings, and Character, may be found in *Biographia Britannica*, under the Article *PEARSON*. <sup>3</sup> See among the Deans.

by virtue of his See. The matter, however, having continued some time in suspense, was afterwards compromised, by the Bishop's collation of the said Mr. *Moore*, June 28, 1679; who was accordingly, the same day, installed Prebendary. He was afterwards in 1691, promoted to the See of *Norwich*; and at length translated to *Ely*.<sup>1</sup>

14. CHARLES RODERICK, D.D. Provost of *King's College, Cambridge*, on the promotion of Dr. *Moore* to the See of *Norwich*, was instituted, on the King's presentation, to this Prebend, Aug. 12, 1691. He was afterwards advanced to the Deanery of this Church, being admitted thereto Oct. 8, 1708.<sup>2</sup>

15. ROBERT CANNON, D.D. Archdeacon of *Norfolk*, (sometime Fellow of *King's College, Cambridge*,) and Minister of *Christ-Church, London*, was collated to this Prebend Feb. 14, 1708-9. He became Sub-Almoner to the King; was made Prebendary of *Westminster*, July 8, 1715; and Dean of *Lincoln* Dec. 9, 1721. He died Mar. 28, 1722; and was buried in *Westminster Abbey*; and succeeded by

16. THOMAS JONES, B.D. Rector of *Downham* in the *Isle of Ely*. He had been Fellow of *King's College* in *Cambridge*, and one of the Tutors there; afterwards became Chaplain to Bishop *Fleetwood*, who collated him to *Downham*, Jan. 14, 1714-5; and to this Prebend April 10, 1722. He resigned his Rectory of *Downham*, Apr. 9, 1750; and retired to his Prebendal House, where he died Dec. 18, 1759, in the 83d year of his Age; and was buried in the Presbytery, near Bishop *Hotham*: His Successor was

17. HENRY HEATON, B.D. a native of *Doncaster* in *Yorkshire*, admitted of *Corpus-Christi* College in *Cambridge* in 1730, and became Fellow and Tutor of the same. He was afterwards Chaplain to Archbishop *Herring*, who collated him in 1752, to the Vicarages of *Boughton under Bleane* and *Herne-bill* in *Kent*; to the Masterhip of *Eastbridge* Hospital in *Canterbury*, in 1753; and to the Rectory of *Ivechurch* in that Diocese the following year; when he quitted *Herne-bill*. He was presented to this Prebend, being an Option, by the Executors of the Archbishop; was instituted to it Dec. 28, 1759, installed Jan. 4, 1760; and is the present Prebendary of this Stall, May 24, 1770.

## PREBENDARIES of the Second Stall.

1. MATTHEW PARKER, D.D. Dean of the Collegiate Church of *Stoke by Clare* in *Suffolk*, and Chaplain to King *Henry VIII*, was nominated to the Second Prebendal Stall in this Church, by the Foundation-Charter of that King, dated Sept. 10, 1541; by whose recommendation also he was elected Master of *Corpus-Christi* College in *Cambridge*, Dec. 4, 1544. He became afterwards Chaplain to King *Edward VI*, who promoted him to the Prebend of *Coringham*, and to the Deanery of *Lincoln*: but on the accession of Queen *Mary*, he was deprived of all; and lived retired, till Queen *Elizabeth* came to the Crown; when he was advanced, on account of his extraordinary merit, to the Archbishoprick of *Canterbury*.

2. JOHN

<sup>1</sup> See among the Bishops.    <sup>2</sup> See among the Deans.



2. JOHN YOUNG, D.D. who is said to have been a Monk of *Ramsay*,<sup>1</sup> was elected Master of *Pembroke-Hall* in *Cambridge* in 1553, in the room of Bishop *Ridley* deprived. April 12, 1554, he was instituted to this Prebend, vacant by the deprivation of Dr. *Parker*; on the 24th of the same month, to the Rectory of *Strettham*; and the same year served the office of Vicechancellor of *Cambridge*. He was a very active Man, in Queen *Mary's* reign, in promoting Popery; and was one of the Doctors sent by the University of *Cambridge* in 1555, to dispute with Archbishop *Cranmer*, Bishops *Ridley* and *Latimer*, at *Oxford*; who suffered martyrdom there, on account of their Religion. On Queen *Elizabeth's* accession, he was deprived of all his preferments, and confined in the King's-Bench prison, where he died in 1579, aged about 70.

3. JOHN PORIE, D.D. Master of *Corpus-Christi* College, *Cambridge*, and Rector of *Landbeach*, was promoted to this Prebend, on Dr. *Young's* deprivation, and instituted to it in the beginning of the year 1560: he became Prebendary of *Canterbury* in 1561; and Rector of *Lambeth* in 1563; in which year he resigned this Prebend; and was succeeded by

4. THOMAS<sup>2</sup> HILL, M.A. Rector of *Kedington* in *Suffolk*, and of *Wickmere* in *Norfolk*, who was collated in 1563; and resigned this Stall the year following; and on his resignation,

5. ROBERT BEAUMONT, D.D. Master of *Trinity* College in *Cambridge*, and Archdeacon of *Huntingdon*, was collated Nov. 15, 1564; being at that time Vicechancellor of the University: and had been Lady *Margaret's* Professor in Divinity. He was a second time elected Vicechancellor, and died in that office about May, or the beginning of June, 1567.

6. THOMAS ITHELL, LL.D. Master of *Jesus* College in *Cambridge*, and Chancellor of the Diocese, was collated to this Stall June 10, 1567; and on July 24 following, to the Sine-cure Rectory of *Elm cum Emneth* in the *Isle of Ely*: all which preferments he died possessed of, about April or May 1579.

7. ROBERT NORGATE, B.D. Master of *Corpus-Christi* College in *Cambridge*, Prebendary of *Lincoln*, and Rector of *Forncet* in *Norfolk*, was admitted to this Prebend May 8, 1579. He proceeded to his Degree of D.D. in 1581, and was elected Vicechancellor of *Cambridge* in 1584; and Nov. 10, that year, was presented by the Queen to the Rectory of *Gransden Parva* in this Diocese. Had formerly been one of Archbishop *Parker's* Chaplains, and by him presented to the Rectory of *Lachindon* in *Essex*. He died on Nov. 2, 1587; leaving a Widow, who married Dr. *Nicholas Felton*, afterwards Bishop of *Ely*.

#### 8. THOMAS

<sup>1</sup> If he had been Fellow of St. John's College in *Cambridge*, and A.B. in 1536, as Mr. Baker affirms, he could hardly have been a Monk of *Ramsay*, or any other Regular Convent. He was a learned Man, and opposed Bucer. <sup>2</sup> In Willis's Cath. Ely, pag. 378. — and Le Neve's Fasti. pag. 75. he is called *Thomas*. — And in Bp. Cox's Register, his Collation is omitted; however, that of his Successor is there entered; "Item 15 die Nov. A.D. 1564, Dominus Episcopus Canonicatum sive Præbendam quam Mag<sup>r</sup> *Johannes Hill* nuper habuit, per liberam resignationem ejusdem vacantem, contulit Magistro Roberto Beaumont S.T.P. &c."

8. THOMAS NEVILLE, M.A. Master of *Magdalene* College in *Cambridge*, Chaplain to Queen *Elizabeth*, and Rector of *Doddington cum March* in the *Isle of Ely*, was presented to this Prebend by the Queen, and instituted to it Nov. 22, 1587. The following year, being then D.D., he was elected Vicechancellor of the University; was made Dean of *Peterborough* in 1590; and Master of *Trinity* College in 1593.<sup>1</sup> He resigned *Doddington*, on being instituted Mar. 2, 1593-4, to *Teversham* near *Cambridge*; and was at length promoted to the Deanery of *Canterbury* June 28, 1597. He died at *Cambridge* May 2, 1615; was buried in *Canterbury* Cathedral; and succeeded by

9. JOHN BOIS, B.D. Rector of *Boxworth* in *Cambridgeshire*, who was collated to this Prebend Aug. 25, 1615; having this favour conferred on him by Bishop *Andrews* merely on account of his worth and eminent learning, without his knowledge or expectation. He quitted it in March following, in exchange for the first Stall,<sup>2</sup> with

10. DANIEL WIGMORE, B.D. who was possessed of it before Mar. 25, 1616; and was the same year collated to the Archdeaconry of *Ely*: both which preferments<sup>3</sup> he held till the Cathedrals were dissolved in the Grand Rebellion; and dying in 1646, was buried at *Shelford*.

11. BERNARD HALE, D.D. Fellow of *Peter-House*, having been collated by Bishop *Wren*, to the Rectory of *Fen-Ditton*, June 22, 1660; was by him also promoted to the Archdeaconry of *Ely* July 2, following; and the next day July 3, to this Prebendal Stall; in both which he was installed Sept. 22; and on Nov. 5, the same year, on the promotion of Dr. *Cosin* to the See of *Durham*, was made Master of *Peter-House*. He died on Mar. 29, 1663, and was buried in the Chapel of *Peter-House*; to which College having been a considerable Benefactor; the Society, in gratitude to his memory, placed over him a Marble, with the Inscription referred to below.<sup>4</sup> He was succeeded by

12. ANTHONY SPARROW, D.D. Master of *Queen's* College, *Cambridge*, and Archdeacon of *Sudbury*, who was installed May 7, 1663; and the following year was elected Vicechancellor of the University. In 1667, he was promoted to the See of *Exeter*, and consecrated Bishop Nov. 3; and in September 1676, was translated to *Norwich*; where he died on May 19, 1685. On his promotion to *Exeter*,

13. JOHN LIGHTFOOT, D.D. Master of *Catherine-Hall*, *Cambridge*, and Rector of *Great Munden* in *Hertfordshire*, was presented to this Stall, by Lord-Keeper *Bridgman*, instituted Jan. 22, and installed Feb. 5, 1667-8. He died at *Munden* Dec. 6, 1675, and was there buried.<sup>5</sup>

14. HENRY

<sup>1</sup> Whilst he was Master there, he built the Second Court of his College, called *Nevile's* Court.  
<sup>2</sup> See among the Prebendaries of the First Stall.    <sup>3</sup> See among the Archdeacons.    <sup>4</sup> "Memoriæ sacrum venerabilis Viri BERNARDI HALE, S.T.P. Klientis Canonici, necnon Archidiaconi, atque hujus Collegii Magistri pii, eruditi, munifici; qui Walden Regis in Com. Hartford natus, obiit Martii 29, 1663, atque hic sepultus jacet. Hunc Lapidem Gratitude ergo posuit Societas Petrensis."  
<sup>5</sup> His Character, some particular circumstances of his Life, and an account of the Works of this very learned Man, may be met with in *Biographia Britannica*, under the Article LIGHTFOOT.



14. HENRY HARRISON, D.D. Rector of *Wethersfield* in *Suffolk*, and *Snailwell* in *Cambridgeshire*, was collated by Bishop *Gunning* to this Prebend Dec. 13, and installed Dec. 17, 1675. He died Sept. 5, 1690, aged 80 years, and was buried in the Chancel of *West-Wickham* Church in *Cambridgeshire*, with two Epitaphs; one on the Wall, the other on the Floor; and was succeeded by

15. The Hon. HENRY FINCH, M.A. Brother to the Earl of *Nottingham*, instituted to this Prebend, on a Royal presentation, Oct. 10, 1690. He afterwards became Dean of *York*, and was installed June 13, 1702; and was also Rector of the great Living of *Winwick* in *Lancashire*; but resigned this Prebend, after two years possession, in favour of his Tutor,

16. THOMAS LOVETT, M.A. Fellow of *Christ's* College in *Cambridge*, who was collated Dec. 1, and installed Dec. 10. 1692: he died Mar. 4, 1698-9, at *Christ's* College, and was buried in the Chapel there, but without any memorial; and succeeded by

17. ROBERT MIDDLETON, M.A. Brother-in-law to Bishop *Patrick*, and Vicar of *Cockfield* in *Suffex*, collated Mar. 14, and installed Mar. 17, 1698-9; who dying at *Cockfield*, about Sept. 1713, was succeeded by

18. THOMAS TANNER, D.D. Fellow of *All-Souls* College in *Oxford*; Chancellor of the Diocese of *Norwich*, and Rector of *Thorpe* near that City; collated to this Prebend Sept. 10, 1713, and installed the same day. Dec. 7, 1721, on the resignation of Dr. *Cannon*, he was made Archdeacon of *Norfolk*; and resigned this Prebend Jan. 1, 1723-4, on being nominated to a Canonry of *Christ-Church*, *Oxford*, in which he was installed the next month. In 1727, he was chosen Prolocutor of the Convocation; and at length promoted to the See of *St. Asaph*, of which he was consecrated Bishop Jan. 23, 1731-2. He died at *Christ-Church* Dec. 14, 1735, and was buried in the Nave of that Cathedral, near the Pulpit; where a Monument to his memory is affixed to one of the Pillars, with an Inscription, as below.<sup>1</sup>

19. CLEMENT TOOKIE, M.A., afterwards LL.D., Vicar of *Chippenham* in *Cambridgeshire*, and Rector of *Worlington* in *Suffolk*; (who had also been Second Master of *St. Paul's* School, *London*;) was, on Dr. *Tanner's* resignation, collated to this Prebend, Feb. 12, and installed Feb. 20, 1723-4. He died in June 1748, and was buried at *Chippenham*; and succeeded by

20. JOHN

“ M. S. THOMÆ TANNER, S.T.P., qui natus Lavingtoniæ in agro Wiltoniensi, in Collegium Reginense admissus, deinde Omnium Animarum Capellanus, mox Socius cooptatus est; optimarum ibi artium cultor, Antiquitatis præsertim studio ita trahebatur, ut in Patriæ Fastis, Monumentisque eruendis, nemo illo diligentior, nemo in explicandis peritior haberetur. Hinc maturè evocatus ad munus Cancellarii Diœceseos Nordovicensis; auctus est insuper Præbenda Eliensi; Academiæ denuo restitutus, hanc Ædem Canonicus ornavit. A Clero interim Prolocutor renunciatus; ad Episcopatum tandem evectus est Asavensem. Vir erat ad omne officium summa fide et diligentia, rarâ pietate, humanissimâ erga omnes voluntate, liberalitate in egenos effusissimâ. Obiit 14 die Decembris A.D. 1735, Ætatis 62.”

20. JOHN NICOLS, M.A., since D.D., Fellow of *Merton College in Oxford*; and many years resident Chaplain to the *English Merchants settled at Oporto in Portugal*; who was collated to this Prebend Oct. 11, and installed Oct. 15, 1748. He is at this time Preacher of the *Charter-House, London*; and the present possessor of this Stall, June 1, 1770.

PREBENDARIES of the Third Stall.

1. WILLIAM MAY, LL.D. was nominated to the Third Prebendal Stall in this Cathedral, by the King's Charter of erection Sept. 10, 1541. He was at that time Chancellor to Bishop *Goodrich*; Master of *Queen's College, Cambridge*; Rector also of *Balsam in Cambridgeshire*, and of *Littlebury Sine-cure in Essex*. He afterwards became Dean of *St. Paul's, London*, in 1545; was Master of Requests, in King *Edward the VI's* reign; and one whose Services were much used in the Reformation, under that King. In *Queen Mary's* time, he was deprived of his Deanery, and Mastership of *Queen's College*; but does not appear to have been dispossessed of this Prebend. However, he was restored to his Deanery of *St. Paul's*, and Mastership, on *Queen Elizabeth's* accession; and was nominated and elected Archbishop of *York*; but dying before his Consecration, on Aug. 8, 1560, was buried in the Choir of *St. Paul's Cathedral*, with the underwritten Inscription.\* His Successor here was

2. THOMAS STYWARD, M.A., the time of whose admission does not appear; but in the *Certificatorium*† of Bishop *Cox*, to the Archbishop, of the State of the Diocese of *Ely*, dated Jan. 28, 1560-1; he is returned "Prebendary of this Stall; was a Priest, and also M.A.; was qualified for Preaching, and had a Special Licence for that purpose, both from the Archbishop, and from the Bishop; that he resided here, and kept Hospitality." He was afterwards Rector of *Downham near Ely*; and died, and was buried in *St. Mary's Chapel*, Dec. 2, 1568.

3. JOHN WHITGIFT, D.D., Master of *Trinity College, Cambridge*, Rector of *Teversham in Cambridgeshire*, and Chaplain to Bishop *Cox*, was by him collated to this Prebend Dec. 5, 1568. He had formerly been Fellow of *St. Peter's College, Cambridge*; and thence elected Master of *Pembroke-Hall* in 1567; which he quitted the same year,

on

\* "En! recubat tumulo GULIELMUS MEYIUS isto,  
Qui Sacra bis in hac Æde Decanus erat.  
Cantabriam teneris petit studiosus ab annis;  
Ingenium ingenuis artibus excoluit.  
Clarus Doctorum Juris-Prudentia fecit,  
Pectore qui miti carus ubique fuit.  
Factus Eboracus fortè Archiepiscopus idem est;  
Quem fungi officio Fata proterva vetant.  
Attulit hæc mortem, quæ lux concessit honorem;  
Maluit ac fieri Præsul adire polum.  
Aspice quàm rebus sit Sors incerta caducis!  
En! pete quæ nulla sunt peritura die!  
Obiit Anno Verbi Incarnati 1560, 8 die Augusti."

† MS. in Bene't Coll. Library, Miscellanea V.



on being made Master of *Trinity College*: he was also successively Lady *Margaret's*, and *Regius* Professor in Divinity: installed Dean of *Lincoln* Aug. 2, 1571; consecrated Bishop of *Worcester* Apr. 21, 1577; and at length translated to *Canterbury* Sept. 23, 1583. He died on Feb. 29, 1603-4, and was buried at *Croydon* on Mar. 27, following.

4. HUGH BOOTHE, B.D. Fellow of *Trinity College, Cambridge*, was presented by the Queen to this Prebend, vacant by the promotion of Dr. *Whitgift* to *Worcester*, and was instituted Oct. 8, 1577. He left College soon after; but what other preferment he had, I do not find: however, he was in possession of this, at the time of his death, which happened about January 1602-3.

5. ROBERT TINLEY, D.D. Archdeacon of *Ely*; formerly Fellow of *Magdalen College* in *Oxford*, and Proctor of that University in 1595; was collated to this Prebend Feb. 4, and presented to the Rectory of *Glemsford* in *Suffolk*, Feb. 8, 1602-3: which Rectory he resigned on Feb. 23, 1607-8, being then presented to the Vicarage of *Witham* in *Essex*; as he was also on Aug. 23, following, to the Prebend of *Kentish-Town* in *St. Paul's, London*. He died soon after Michaelmas 1616, at *Witham*, and was there buried.

6. HIEROM BEALE, B.D. sometime Fellow of *Pembroke-Hall* in *Cambridge*, Rector of *Nutburst* in *Suffex*, and Prebendary of *Chichester*; was collated to this Stall, before Dec. 21, 1616. He was chosen Master of *Pembroke-Hall* Feb. 21, 1618-9; and the same year created D.D.; became Rector of *Hardwick*, and of *Willingham* in *Cambridgeshire*; Vicechancellor of the University in 1622; Chaplain and Sub-almoner to King *James I.* He died about Michaelmas 1630: and was succeeded by

7. ELIZEUS BURGESS, B.D. (formerly of *St. John's College, Oxford*), Archdeacon of *Rocheſter*, Rector of *South-Fleet* in *Kent*, and Vicar of *Canewdon* in *Essex*; who was collated by Bishop *Buckeridge* soon after Michaelmas, 1630. He was ejected from his Archdeaconry, and this Prebend in the times of the Usurpation; but whether from his Parochial Cures, I do not find. He died about the end of the year 1652, and is supposed to have been buried at *South-Fleet*.

8. WILLIAM HOLDER, M.A. late Fellow of *Pembroke-Hall* in *Cambridge*; and Rector of *Blechingdon* in *Oxfordshire*, was collated by Bishop *Wren*, then in the *Tower of London*, Jan. 25, 1652-3, but not installed till Sept. 22, 1660. After the King's Restoration, he was created D.D. at *Oxford*, became Rector of *Northwold* in *Norfolk*, and of *Tidd St. Giles's* in the *Isle of Ely*; and was afterwards Canon Residentiary of *St. Paul's London*, Rector of *Therfield* in *Hertfordshire*, Sub-Almoner to the King, Dean of his Majesty's Chapel; and Fellow of the Royal Society. He died Jan. 24, 1697-8, in the 82d year of his age, and was buried in the Undercroft of *St. Paul's, London*; where there is a Monument erected to his Memory.

9. THOMAS RICHARDSON, D.D. Fellow of *Eton*, and Rector of *Glaysdon* in the County of *Rutland*, was collated to this Prebend Feb. 1, and installed Feb. 17, 1697-8. He was made Master of *Peter-House* in *Cambridge*, Dec. 9, 1699; and resigned this Stall Dec. 4, 1700.—He died July 31, 1733, aged 79, and was buried in *Peter-House Chapel*.

10. DREW

10. DREW CRESSENER, D.D. Vicar of *Sobam* in *Cambridgeshire*, succeeded to this Stall on Dr. *Richardson's* resignation, being collated thereto Dec. 12, 1700. He had formerly been Fellow of *Pembroke-Hall, Cambridge*, and Proctor of the University in 1678. He died at *Sobam* Feb. 20, 1717-8, and was there buried; with the underwritten Inscription.<sup>1</sup>

11. CHARLES FLEETWOOD, M.A. afterwards LL.D., Son of Bishop *Fleetwood*, Fellow of *King's College* in *Cambridge*, was collated to this Prebend by his Father, Mar. 17, and installed Mar. 22, 1717-8; he was presented in January following to the Rectory of *Barley* in *Hertfordshire*; and collated Nov. 28, 1722, to the Rectory of *Cottenham* in *Cambridgeshire*: afterwards became Canon of *Exeter*, and Archdeacon of *Cornwall*. He died at *Cottenham* July 27, 1737, and was buried in the Presbytery of this Cathedral in the same Vault with his Father: and a Monument<sup>2</sup> to his Memory, was soon after erected in the South-Isle of the Presbytery, with an Inscription, as below.<sup>3</sup>

12. THOMAS GREENE, M.A. (since D.D.) eldest Son of Bishop *Greene*, late Fellow of *Corpus-Christi College*, and at that time Fellow of *Jesus College, Cambridge*, was collated by his Father to this Prebend, and to the Rectory of *Cottenham* in *Cambridgeshire* Aug. 1, and was installed Prebendary here Aug. 2, 1737. His next promotion, was to the Chancellorship of the Church of *Lichfield*, to which he was presented in May 1751, by Archbishop *Herring*, as his Option: and in August the same year, was made one of the King's Chaplains. April 27, 1755, he attended his Majesty in his last journey to *Hanover* as his Chaplain; and returning with him Sept. 15 following; was in May 1756, made Prebendary of *Westminster*: which, however, he resigned the next year, on being nominated by his Majesty to the Deanery of *Salisbury* in February, and installed Dean there Mar. 13, 1757. He is the present possessor of this Prebend, June 9, 1770.

### PREBENDARIES of the Fourth Stall.

1. WILLIAM LYSON or LESON, LL.D. a Master in Chancery, and Prebendary of *Gaya-Minor*, in the Church of *Lichfield*, was appointed the Fourth Prebendary in this Cathedral, by the King's Charter of erection Sept. 10, 1541. He was Rector of *Southam* in *Warwickshire*; and in his Will, dated Jan. 8, 1549, a little before his death, he appointed to be buried in this Cathedral.

2. RICHARD WILKS, B.D., Master of *Christ College, Cambridge*, was Chaplain to Bishop *Goodrich*; and by him presented to the Rectory of *Pulham* in *Norfolk*, Dec. 7, 1542;

<sup>1</sup> "Depositum DRUGONIS CRESSENER S.T.P. Aulæ Pembrochianæ per 15 annos Socii; hujus Ecclesiæ per 39 annos Vicarii; Ecclesiæ Eliensis per 17 annos Canonici: Obiit 20 die Mensis Februarii, A.D. 1717, Ætatis suæ 79."

<sup>2</sup> Plate XXXVI. <sup>3</sup> "Here lyeth the Body of CHARLES FLEETWOOD, LL.D. only remaining Son of William Lord Bishop of Ely. He was Archdeacon of Cornwall, Canon of this Church, and of Exeter, and Rector of Cottenham in this Diocese. He married in the year 1718, Anne the eldest Daughter of the Right Reverend Father in God Stephen Weston now Lord Bishop of Exeter; who being left a Widow by his death, erected this Monument to the Memory of her most dear deceased Husband. He dyed at Cottenham on the 27th day of July in the year of our Lord 1737, and of his Age the 44th."



1542; collated to the Rectory of *Fen-Ditton* in *Cambridgeshire*, June 11, 1544; and to the Mastership of St. *John's* Hospital in *Ely*, Oct. 25, 1547; was presented by the King to this Prebend, Jan. 12, 1549-50. He died at *Ely*, and was buried in St. *Mary's* Church Oct. 13, 1556; having been deprived of his Mastership of *Cbrist's* College in 1553, and probably of this Stall soon after: but who was his immediate Successor here, is not very clear; unless it was,

3. JOHN EBDEN, M.A., Fellow of St. *Peter's* College in *Cambridge*, and Proctor of the University in 1550; who was Prebendary of this Stall in 1560; but when admitted to it, does not appear. In the *Certificatorium*<sup>1</sup> of the Diocese of *Ely*, by Bishop *Cox*, dated Jan. 28, 1560-1, he is said to be "M.A., not to reside much at *Ely*, but at *Cambridge*, in *Queen's* College, for the sake of prosecuting his Studies; was qualified for Preaching, and had a special Licence for that purpose from the Archbishop." He was about that time promoted by the Queen to the Archdeaconry of *Durham*; which he resigned in 1563; having been promoted to the Prebend of *Mapeisbury* in St. *Paul's*, *London*; and also to a Prebend of *Winchester*, in 1562: and is supposed to have resigned this Stall also about the same time. He proceeded to his Degree of D.D. in 1564: and became Archdeacon of *Winchester* in 1571; resigned that Dignity in 1575; but held his Prebend there about 50 years; dying in 1612.

4. MATTHEW HUTTON, B.D. Master of *Pembroke-Hall* in *Cambridge*; (formerly Fellow of *Trinity* College;) became Prebendary of this Stall on the resignation of *Ebden*, but the exact time does not appear: he was Lady *Margaret's* Professor in 1561, and resigned it the following year, on being made *Regius* Professor in Divinity; and on Sept. 4, 1563, was instituted to the Rectory of *Boxworth* in *Cambridgeshire*; created D.D. in 1565; and the same year became Prebendary of *Westminster*; which he resigned, as also the Mastership of *Pembroke-Hall*, his Professorship, and Prebend at *Ely*, in 1567, on being made Dean of *York*: from which Dignity he was promoted to the See of *Durham*, and consecrated Bishop thereof, July 27, 1589; thence translated to the Metropolitan See of *York*, and enthroned there Mar. 31, 1595. He died at *Bishopsthorp* Jan. 16, 1605-6, and was buried in *York* Cathedral.

5. HENRY HARVEY or HERVEY, LL.D., of a respectable (and since ennobled) Family,<sup>2</sup> settled at *Ickworth* in *Suffolk*; Master of *Trinity-Hall* in *Cambridge*; Rector of *Littlebury*, *Sinecure*, in *Essex*; and Precentor of St. *Paul's*, *London*; was collated to this Prebend, vacant by the resignation of Dr. *Hutton*, June 25, 1567. He had been Archdeacon of *Middlesex*; but had resigned it in 1554; and Chancellor of this Diocese the last year of Bishop *Thirleby's* time; also Vicechancellor of the University in 1560. He was sometime Dean of the *Arches*, and Founder of *Doctors-Commons*, in *London*; and is reckoned among the Benefactors of *Trinity-Hall*, where he enlarged the Buildings, and founded one Scholarship. He died about February 1584-5; and was succeeded by

6. THOMAS

<sup>1</sup> MS. Bene't Coll. Library, Miscellanea, V: Ickworth in Suffolcia Decus." Parker's *Σχολαῖοις* Cantabrig.

<sup>2</sup> "Non ultimum Familiæ suæ Harveianæ de

6. THOMAS NUCE, B.D., who was admitted to this Stall, on the Queen's presentation, Feb. 21, 1584-5. He had been of *Pembroke-Hall, Cambridge*, where he was admitted Fellow in 1562; was sometime Rector of *Oxborough* in *Norfolk*; of *Beckles*, and *Weston-Market* in *Suffolk*; also Vicar of *Gayley* in that County; where he died Nov. 8, 1617; and was buried in the Chancel of that Church, under a Stone inscribed, as below.<sup>1</sup>

7. ROGER ANDREWS, D.D., formerly Fellow of *Pembroke-Hall* in *Cambridge*, and Vicar of *Chigwell* in *Essex*; and at the time of the vacancy of this Stall, Prebendary, Archdeacon, and Chancellor of the Church of *Chichester*; was collated to it, by his Brother Bishop *Andrews*, Nov. 17, 1617; and the following year, to the Mastership of *Jesus College, Cambridge*; besides which, he had likewise the *Sinecure* Rectory of *Elm cum Emnetb* in this Diocese; and in the year 1625, was made Prebendary of *Winchester*. He was one of those learned Men, who were employed by King *James I*, in the Translation of the Bible. He died soon after Michaelmas 1635; and was succeeded by

8. JOHN HARRIS, M.A., collated to this Prebend before Oct. 27, 1635. What other preferment he held with this, does not fully appear; unless it was the Rectory of *Passenham* in *Northamptonshire*, to which he had been presented by the Crown, in 1632; and where he is supposed to have died, and been buried in 1658.

9. HENRY BRUNSELL, M.A., was collated to this Prebend Oct. 4, and installed Oct. 18, 1660; and on Jan. 16 following, was admitted to the Degree of LL.D. at *Oxford*. He had been educated in *Magdalen-Hall* in that University; and admitted to the practise of Physick: but on the King's Restoration, laying aside that faculty, betook himself to Divinity; and became Rector of *Clayworth* in *Nottinghamshire*, and Prebendary of *Southwell*. Aug. 14, 1662, he was collated to the Rectory of *Stretham* in this Diocese; where dying Feb. 23, 1678-9, he was buried in the Chancel of that Church, and hath on his Grave-stone a short Inscription, as below.<sup>2</sup> He founded three Exhibitions at *Magdalen College, Oxford*; and three more at *Jesus College, Cambridge*.

10. WILLIAM SAYWELL, D.D., Chaplain to Bishop *Gunning*, and Chancellor of the Church of *Chichester*; was collated to this Prebend Feb. 28, 1678-9; as he was also, in December following, to the Mastership of *Jesus College, Cambridge*, and to the Rectory of *Willingham* in this Diocese; and on Jan. 22, 1680-1, to the Archdeaconry of *Ely*: all which preferments he died possessed of; and was buried in *Jesus College Chapel*, with only this short Inscription, "GUL. SAYWELL, S.T.P. hujus Coll. Custos, obiit Jun. 9, 1701." His Successor was

## 11. CHARLES

<sup>1</sup> "Here who lyes, if you enquire,  
'Tis THOMAS NUCE his Sepulchere,  
Vicar of this Parish late;  
Whose Soule enjoyes a happy state,  
And in fulness shall of tyme,  
Reassume this earthly slyme.

By his side now, as in life,  
Lyes the Body of his Wife,  
Ann, who in number even,  
Five Sonnes brought him, Daughters seven.  
To the world they lyvinge dyde,  
So dyinge lyvinge they abide.

He died the 8th day of November A.D. 1617. She died A.D. 1613."

<sup>2</sup> "Hic jacet HENRICUS BRUNSELL, LL.D. Præbendarius Ecclesiæ Eliensis, et Rector de Stretham. Obiit 23 Feb. 1678. Anno Ætatis suæ 61."



11. CHARLES ASHTON, B.D., a Native of *Derbyshire*; he was admitted of *Queen's College* in *Cambridge*, May 18, 1682; and having taken his Degree of B.A., was elected Fellow of that College, Apr. 30, 1687, to be admitted to profits upon a future vacancy; which did not happen till Apr. 9, 1690: he became Chaplain to Bishop *Patrick*, by whom he was presented to the Rectory of *Rattenden* in *Effex*, Mar. 10, 1698-9; which Living he exchanged, in June following, for a Chaplainship of *Chelfea College* or Hospital; and that preferment also he soon after quitted, on being collated by his Patron to this Prebendal Stall, July 3, 1701; and the next day to the Mastership of *Jesus College, Cambridge*; both vacant by the death of Dr. *Saywell*: the same year he proceeded to his Degree of D.D.; and was elected Vicechancellor of the University in 1702. His Mastership and Prebend, (both which he was in possession of above fifty years) were the only preferments he held afterwards; not choosing to accept of any Parochial Benefice; but leading a very retired and studious life in his College; except when statutable residence, and attendance at Chapters, required his presence at *Ely*; on which occasions, he seldom or never failed to be present, till the latter part of his life. He had great knowledge in most branches of Literature, particularly in Chronology, and in the Greek and Latin Languages; but could never be prevailed on to publish any thing in his own Name: though it is well known, that he assisted his Friends in the publication of many learned Works: and since his death a correct Edition of *Justin Martyr's* Apologies, has been published from his MSS, by the Rev. Mr. *Keller*, late Fellow of *Jesus College, Cambridge*, the present worthy Rector of *Kelshall* in *Hertfordshire*. Dr. *Ashton* was a generous Contributor in his Life-time to the Ornament of his College; where he died in March 1752, in the 87th year of his Age, and was buried in the College Chapel, with the Epitaph referred to below.<sup>1</sup>

12. HENRY GOODALL, D.D., sometime Fellow of *Gonville* and *Caius College* in *Cambridge*, Prebendary of *Norwich*, Rector of the consolidated Rectories of *Bixley* and *Framlingham-Earls* in *Norfolk*, Archdeacon of *Suffolk*, and Chaplain to Bishop *Gooch*; was by him collated to this Prebend Mar. 24, 1752. He resigned it Aug. 24, the following year: whereupon,

13. JOHN GOOCH, M.A., younger Son of Bishop *Gooch*, Rector of *Willingham*, and of *Fen-Ditton* in *Cambridgeshire*, was installed Prebendary thereof Sept. 9, 1753: and proceeded to his Degree of D.D. in 1765. He holds some offices in the Diocese of *Norwich*, which were given him by his Father, whilst Bishop of that See: besides which, upon the death of Dr. *Atwell* in 1768, he was appointed Commissary of the Archdeaconry of *Sudbury*, and Town of *Bury*, by Dr. *Philip Yonge*, now Lord Bishop of *Norwich*: and is the present possessor of this Stall, June 16, 1770.

PRE-

<sup>1</sup> "CAR. ASHTON S.T.P. hujus Collegii per annos L Magister, obiit Anno Christi MDCCCLII. Ætat. LXXXVII."

## PREBENDARIES of the Fifth Stall.

1. GILES EYRE, B.D., Fellow and Vice-Provost of *King's College* in *Cambridge*, having been presented by that College, and instituted to the Rectory of *Kingeston* in *Cambridgeshire* June 2, 1538; and likewise collated by Bishop *Goodrich* to the Vicarage of *Fulbourn All-Saints* Sept. 25, and to the *Sinecure* Rectory of *Elm cum Emneth*, Oct. 17, 1540; was nominated by King *Henry VIII*, (to whom he was Chaplain,) to the Fifth Prebend in this Church, by the Foundation-Charter, Sept. 10, 1541. He was afterwards created D.D.; became Chaplain to King *Edward VI*; and was employed under him, in several Commissions, for the Reformation of Religion. He resigned this Stall in 1549; being that year made Prebendary of *Westminster*, Dean of *Chichester*, and Prebendary of *Hurst-wait*, in the Church of *York*: and died in 1551, or before Feb. 12, the following year.

2. ANTHONY OTWAY, LL.B., on the resignation of Dr. *Eyre*, was presented to this Stall, and admitted to it Sept. 11, 1549. What other preferment he had, does not appear: only I find, he died about November, 1554.

3. JOHN FULLER, LL.D., Fellow of *All-Souls College*, *Oxford*, and there admitted to his Degree of LL.D. in Jan. 1545-6; became Rector of *Hanwell* in *Middlesex* in 1547; which Living he resigned in 1551; having about that time been constituted Vicar General to Dr. *Thirlby* Bishop of *Norwich*. He was next promoted to the Rectories of *Dereham* and *North-Creak*, and the Vicarage of *Swafham* in *Norfolk*: and on Bishop *Thirlby's* translation to *Ely* in 1554, was made his Chancellor; collated to the Mastership of *Jesus College, Cambridge*; and admitted to this Prebend Nov. 16, 1554; and had other preferments in this Diocese, as the Rectories *Hildersham*, *Fen-Ditton* and *Wilbrabam* in *Cambridgeshire*: and May 28, 1558, was instituted to the Prebend of *Chamberlainwood* in the Church of *St. Paul's, London*; and died before Dec. 14, following.

4. THOMAS WILLET, Clerk, was admitted to this Prebend in 1560; but the exact time does not appear. He officiated as Publick Notary at the Consecration of Archbishop *Parker* in *Lambeth Chapel*, Dec. 17, 1559: and was ordained Deacon by Dr. *Grindall* Bp. of *London*, Jan. 14, following; the same year, was presented by the Queen to the Rectory of *Thurcaston* in *Leicestershire*. In Bp. *Cox's Certificatorium*,<sup>1</sup> of the state of this Diocese, to the Archbishop, dated at *Ely*, Jan. 28, 1560-1; he is returned, "Prebendary there, a Priest, no Graduate, but qualified for preaching, and had a special Licence for that purpose, from the Bishop of *Ely*; and resided there with his Family." Bishop *Cox* afterwards presented him to the Rectory of *Barley* in *Hertfordshire*, to which he was instituted Apr. 3, 1571. He resigned this Prebend in July 1587; and dying at *Barley*, in April 1598, was there buried. He was succeeded in this Stall by

5. ANDREW WILLET, M.A., afterwards D.D., Son of the abovenamed *Thomas Willet*. This eminent and learned Person, was born at *Ely*, and educated in the Grammar-School there; was first admitted of *Peter-House*, and afterwards became Scholar and Fellow of *Christ College, Cambridge*. At the age of Twenty-five, he was presented by the Queen to this Prebend, vacant by his Father's resignation, and was ad-

<sup>1</sup> MS. in Bene't Coll. Library, Miscellanea V.



admitted July 22, 1587; the following year, Nov. 12, was instituted to the Rectory of *Childerley* in *Cambridgeshire*; and in 1597, July 2, to the Rectory of *Gransden-Parva* in the same County. He likewise succeeded his Father, (though not immediately,) in the Rectory of *Barley* in *Hertfordshire*; for which he exchanged his Living of *Gransden*, and was instituted, (being then B.D.) Jan. 29, 1598-9: and not long after was created D.D. He was a Person of great industry, piety, and judgment; and was accounted one of the best Commentators, and most celebrated controversial Writers of that Age.<sup>1</sup> His death was occasioned by a casual fall from his Horse, in the Road near *Hodsdon*: he died Dec. 4, 1621, and was buried in the Chancel of *Barley*; to the Poor of which Parish he gave a small Tenement, and 40*l.* in Money. His Grave-stone is inscribed as below.<sup>2</sup> His Successor was

6. RALPH BROWNRIGGE, B.D., Fellow of *Pembroke-Hall, Cambridge*; where he became M.A. 1617; and B.D. in 1621; in December which year Bishop *Felton* collated him to this Prebend, and also presented him to the Rectory of *Barley*, both vacant by Dr. *Willet's* death. He proceeded to his Degree of D.D. in 1626; and Sept. 1, 1629, was collated by Bishop *Morton*, (to whom he was Chaplain,) to the Prebend of *Tachbrook* in *Lichfield Cathedral*; but quitted it Sept. 19, 1631, being collated to the Archdeaconry of *Coventry*. He was also Master of *Catharine-Hall, in Cambridge*, and four times Vicechancellor of the University. After Bishop *Morton* was translated

<sup>1</sup> His Works were, *De Animæ natura*, &c: — *Synopsis Papismi*:—*A Sixfold Commentary on Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus*: — *An Harmony on the 1st and 2d Books of Samuel*: — *Commentary on Daniel, Romans, Jude*: — *Ecclesia triumphans*: — *Thesaurus Ecclesiæ*, &c. — His *Synopsis Papismi*, had 4 several Editions in his life-time, and was dedicated to King James I, “who approved and constantly patronaged the same, having been seen and allowed by the Lords, the Rev<sup>d</sup> Bishops, and ever since had in great esteem in both Universities, and also much desired by all the learned both of the Clergy and Laity:” as it is expressed in a special Licence granted by K. Charles I, for reprinting it, to his Son Paul Willet Cl. dated Apr. 26. 1630. [Rym. Fœd. vol. xix. p. 161.] — His *Harmony on the 1st and 2d Books of Samuel*, were printed in 1613, and 1614: and to each of them is prefixed an elegant Latin Epistle; — The former addressed to the Master and Fellows of Christ College; in which are recounted the Bishops and eminent Men, who had been of their Society: — The latter addressed to his Brethren the Dean and Prebendaries of Ely; wherein he recounts, within his own memory, no less than 3 Archbishops and 4 Bishops who had either been Dignitaries of this Church, or bred up at Ely-School; which in his time was in so flourishing state, that he remembers above 300 Scholars in it at once: and further observes, that near 20 Masters of Colleges in the University of Cambridge, had been Deans, or Prebendaries of Ely. But I must refer the curious Reader, who would know more perfectly the state of the Church of Ely, at that time, to the Epistle itself.

<sup>2</sup> “Hic jacet ANDREAS WILLET Doctor Sacræ Theologiæ, aliquando hujus Ecclesiæ Minister, et magnum totius veræ Ecclesiæ Ornamentum. Ob. Ætat. suæ 59, Dec. 4. A.D. 1621.

“Vivus in hoc tegitur, Lector, mirare, Sepulchro,  
WILLETTUS, sua post Funera vivus adhuc!  
Quin ubi nunc habitat cognoscere; consule sumptu  
Magnifico structam, Scripta polita, Domum.  
Interea partem hanc ejus, quam Fata tulerunt,  
Hic ubi paulisper fleris, abire potes.”

“Thou that 'ere while didst such strong reasons frame,  
As yet, great WILLET, are the Poplin's shame;  
Now by thy Sickness, and by Death hast made  
Strong arguments to prove, That Man's a shade.  
Thy Life did shew thy deep Divinity:  
Death only taught us thy Humanity.”

lated to *Durham*, he collated him in 1641, to the 11th Stall in that Cathedral: and the same year, in December, he was nominated to the See of *Exeter*, and consecrated Bishop thereof May 15, 1642. But the troubles that ensued, did not permit him to enjoy that Dignity: being soon deprived of all his Ecclesiastical preferments, and at length of his Mastership, in 1645, for his Loyalty. Thus left destitute, he retired to the house of *Thomas Rich*, Esq; of *Sunning* in *Berkshire*, by whom he was generously entertained: and about a year before his death, was invited to be Preacher of the *Temple*, *London*; where he had a very liberal appointment, and lodgings handsomely furnished for him by the Society: however, he did not long enjoy them; for dying on Dec. 7, 1659, he was honourably buried in the *Temple* Church, at the expense of the Society: and Dr. *Gauden*, his Successor at *Exeter*, soon after obtained leave to place over his Grave a Marble Stone, with an Inscription, as below.<sup>1</sup>

7. JOHN PEARSON, D.D., Rector of *St. Christopher's* behind the *Royal-Exchange*, *London*, was collated to this Prebend Aug. 27, and installed Sept. 22, 1660: on the 26th of the same month, he was installed Archdeacon of *Surry*; and on Nov. 30 following, made Master of *Jesus* College in *Cambridge*. He resigned this Stall Oct. 9, 1661; and was the same day collated to the First Stall: where some further account may be seen of him. His Successor in this Stall was

8. THOMAS WREN, M.D. and LL.D, Second Son of Bishop *Wren*. He was first admitted a Student at *Cambridge*; but being forced to leave that University in the times of the Usurpation; retired to *Oxford*; where applying himself to the study of Physick about 8 years; on the King's Restoration, was admitted Doctor in that Faculty, by virtue of the Chancellor's Letter: and immediately after entering into Holy Orders, was presented by his Father to the Sinecure Rectory of *Littlebury* in *Essex*, Aug. 10, 1660; and to the Rectory of *Northwold* in *Norfolk*, June 10, 1661: on Jan. 15 following, being then LL.D., he was collated to this Prebend; also to the Rectory of *Willingham* in *Cambridgeshire*, Aug. 20, 1662; and at length to the Archdeaconry of *Ely*, Apr. 8, 1663. All which preferments, except *Northwold*, which he resigned in 1662, he held till the time of his death, which happened about Oct. 1679; on the 24th of which month he was buried at *Wilberton* in the *Isle of Ely*: and was succeeded by

9. HUMPHREY GOWER, D.D., who had been Fellow of *St. John's* College in *Cambridge*, and one of the University Taxors in 1667; in which year he became Rector of *Pagletham* in *Essex*; but resigned that Living, on being collated by Bishop *Gunning*, Nov. 20, 1675, to the Rectory of *Newton* in the *Isle of Ely*: the same Patron also conferred on him *Fen-Ditton* in *Cambridgeshire*, July 4, 1677, being then D.D.; and two years after made him Master of *Jesus* College, July 7; and Prebendary of this Stall, Oct. 25, 1679: on Dec. 3 following, he was elected Master of *St. John's* College; Vicechancellor of the University in 1680; and Lady *Margaret's* Professor of

<sup>1</sup> "Sumptibus & Auspiciis Honorab. Societat. Templi, subtus positæ sunt Reliquiæ RADOLPHI BROWNRIGG S.T.D. Cantab. Reverendiss. Episcopi Exon. quem honorem optimè meruit, & per annos 19, tenuit; malo tamen Seculi fato, (Bellis, Schismatibus, Sacrilegiis, & Regicidibus ferociente,) nunquam exercuit. Tandem anno Ætatis 67, Provinciam terrestrem nondum vitam deferens, ad cœlestem migravit, Æra Christi 1659; illucescente Caroli II, felicissimo reditu. L.M.P.J.G. Episc. Exon. Electus.



of Divinity in 1688. He was accounted a very learned Man, and an excellent Governor of his College; to which he left 500*l.* towards purchasing Livings, and a considerable Estate at *Triplow*, to be annexed to the Mastership for ever. He died on March 27, 1711; and was buried in St. *John's* College Chapel, with an Inscription referred to below.<sup>1</sup>

10. JOHN DAVIES, LL.D. and D.D., was born in *London* April 22, 1679: his Father was a Merchant or Tradesman in that City; he was educated at *Charter-House* School; and admitted of *Queen's* College, *Cambridge*, June 8, 1695; became B.A. in 1698; was elected Fellow of his College, July 7, 1701; proceeded to his Degree of M.A. the following year; was Proctor of the University in 1709; and in 1711, was created LL.D. in which year Bishop *Moore* collated him to this Prebend, Sept. 24; and the same day, to the Rectory of *Fen-Ditton* in *Cambridgeshire*; both vacant by the death of Dr. *Gower*: he was elected Master of his College, Mar. 23, 1716-7; to qualify him for which Preferment, he was created D.D.; and became afterwards Chaplain in ordinary to King *George* I. He was a Person well skilled in the learned Languages, and had a considerable share of Critical knowledge in them; of which he gave sufficient proof in the valuable Editions he published of *Maximus Tyrius*, *Cæsar's* Commentaries, *Minucius Felix*, *Lactantius' Epitome*, and *Tully's* philosophical Works. He died on Mar. 7, 1731-2; and was buried in *Queen's* College Chapel, under a Marble Stone, with the underwritten Inscription.<sup>2</sup>

11. CHRISTOPHER CLARKE, M.A., Archdeacon of *Norwich*, and Rector of *Keston* and *Hayes* near *Bromley* in *Kent*, was collated to this Prebend Mar. 14, and installed Mar. 23, 1731-2. There is extant a Mezzotinto Print of him, by *Faber*, 1740; by which we are informed, that he was born at *Norwich*, educated at *Christ* College, *Cambridge*; and ordained Priest in *Lambeth* Chapel Feb. 27, 1697-8, in the presence of the Emperour *Peter the Great*, Czar of *Muscovy*, &c. was Chaplain to *James* Earl of *Derby*; a Member of the Corporation for propagating the Gospel in foreign Parts; and one of the Governors of the new General Hospital at *Bath*. He died at *Marlingford-Hall* in *Norfolk*, about the beginning of June 1742; and was succeeded by

12. The Hon. CHARLES HERVEY, M.A., and since D.D., Fourth Son of the late Earl, and Uncle to the present Earl of *Bristol*. He was educated at the School of *Bury St. Edmunds*, in *Suffolk*; thence admitted as Nobleman of *Queen's* College in *Cambridge*, Oct. 28, 1724, where he took his Degree of M.A. in right of his Family; continued his residence in College for several years after; and then entering into Holy Orders, was not long after collated to this Prebend, on June 10, and installed June 12, 1742: he was afterwards presented by his Father to the Rectories of *Sproughton* and *Sootley*, in *Suffolk*: and is the present possessor of this Prebendal Stall, June 21, 1770.

PRE-

<sup>1</sup> "M.S. Depositum Viri admodum reverendi HUMPHREDI GOWER S.T.P. Coll. Divi Johannis Præfati; S. Theolog. pro Dom. Margareta Professoris; Eccl. Eliensis Canonici; qui Collegium hoc per Annos triginta & amplius strenue & feliciter rexerat. Obiit 27 Martii, A.D. 1711, Ætatis suæ 74."

<sup>2</sup> "Hic sitæ sunt reliquæ JOHANNIS DAVIES LL. & S.T.D. hujus Collegii Præfidis, ac Eliensis Canonici. Natus est Londini Aprilis die 22, 1679; Denatus in his Ædibus Martii die 7, 1731: — Plura dici noluit Vir optimus."



## PREBENDARIES of the Sixth Stall.

1. JOHN CUSTONS, late one of the Monks of this Priory, was nominated the Sixth Prebendary of this Church, by the King's Foundation-Charter, Sept. 10, 1541. He also became Rector of *Melton* in *Suffolk*; and dying sometime in February, or March, 1543-4; was succeeded by

2. THOMAS BACON, B.D., Prebendary of *Stoke by Clare* in *Suffolk*, and one of the King's Chaplains; who was admitted on the King's Presentation Mar. 15, 1543-4. He is said to have been Brother of *Nicholas Bacon* of *London*, Merchant:<sup>1</sup> was sometime Vicar of *Hoxne*, and Rector of *Barrow*, and of *Brandon-Ferry* in *Suffolk*: became Master of *Gonsville-Hall* in *Cambridge* in 1552; and was the immediate Predecessor of the Learned *John Caius*, M.D., Second Founder of that College. He died about the end of the year 1559; and was succeeded in this Prebend, by

3. ANDREW DEANE, M.A., who is returned as Prebendary of this Stall in the *Certificatorium*<sup>2</sup> of Bishop *Cox*, before-cited, Jan. 28, 1560-1; in which it is said, "That he is a Priest, and often resides on his Prebend, but oftener on his Rectory of *Downham*; he is M.A., and qualified for Preaching; has no special Licence for Preaching; nor does he exercise his talent that way, except in his own Parish; nor does he keep a Family there." He died at *Downham*, and was there buried Dec. 16, 1565.

4. JOHN BELL, B.D., (afterwards D.D.) Rector of *Fulbourn St. Vigor's*, in *Cambridgehire*, and Chaplain to Bishop *Cox*, was collated to this Prebend about the beginning of 1566; but the exact time does not appear. He had been Fellow of *Peter-House*, and Proctor of the University in 1558; and was also Proctor in Convocation for the Clergy of this Diocese in 1562, when he was one of the original Subscribers to the XXXIX Articles of Religion. Bishop *Cox* collated him to the Rectory of *Fen-Ditton*, Jan. 50, 1570-1; to the Mastership of *Jesus College*, in 1579: and on the death of Dr. *Perne* in 1589, he was made Dean of this Church.<sup>3</sup>

5. EDWARD GRANT, D.D., Prebendary of *Westminster*, Master of *Westminster* School, and Rector of *Byntree* and *Foulsham* in *Norfolk*, became Prebendary of this Stall in 1589; but the exact time of his admission, appears not. He had been Vicar of *South-Bensfleet* in *Essex*, in 1584, but resigned it soon; became afterwards Rector of *Barnet* in *Hertfordshire*, Nov. 3, 1591; and of *Toppesfield* in *Essex*, Apr. 22, 1598. He was esteemed one of the best Classic-Scholars of his time; a good *Latin* Poet; and excellent in *Greek*; of which Language he composed a copious Grammar; afterwards abridged by the famous *William Camden*, to whom he resigned his School in 1592; having been about 20 years Master. He died Aug. 4, 1601, was buried in *Westminster* Abby, without any memorial; and was succeeded in this Stall, by

6. JOHN HILLS, B.D., (afterwards, D.D.,) who was collated to this Stall, Aug. 17, 1601. He was Fellow of *Jesus College*, *Cambridge*; and before his promotion to this Prebend, was presented by the Queen to the Vicarage of *Fulbourn All-*

*Saints*,

<sup>1</sup> Parker's *Συναγωγὴ*; Cantabr. <sup>2</sup> MS. in Bene't Coll. Library, Miscell. V. <sup>3</sup> See among the Deans.



*Saints*, his native place, July 28, 1592: and afterwards was installed Prebendary of *Langford-Ecclesia*, in the Church of *Lincoln*, Apr. 27, 1609; became Archdeacon of *Lincoln*, Sept. 21, 1612; next, was made Master of *Catharine-Hall, Cambridge*; and elected Vicechancellor, in 1616. He died about Michaelmas 1626; and was buried at *Horsbeath* in *Cambridgeshire*. His Successor was

7. JAMES WEDDERBURN, D.D., a native of *Scotland*, Rector of *Compton* in *Hampshire*, and Prebendary of *Whitchurch* in the Church of *Wells*: collated to this Stall, before Christmas, 1626. He was presented by the King to the Vicarage of *Miltenhall* in *Suffolk*, Dec. 12, 1628; and quitted this Stall about *Lady-day* 1636; on being then promoted to the Bishoprick of *Dumblane* in *Scotland*; in which Kingdom he became Dean of the King's Chapel: and dying Sept. 23, 1639, aged 54, was buried in *Canterbury Cathedral*.

8. NEHEMIAH ROGERS, M.A., was presented by the King, (*jure prærogative*,) to this Prebend Apr. 1, 1636. He was sometime Fellow of *Jesus College, Cambridge*; and was lineally descended from the Rev. Mr. *John Rogers*, the first Martyr in *Queen Mary's* reign. He became Vicar of *Messing* in *Essex*, May 13, 1620; Rector of *Tey-Magna* Sinecure, in the same County, May 25, 1632; and Rector also of *St. Botolph's Bishopgate, London*, Mar. 26, 1642. But the Rebellion breaking out soon after, he was deprived of all his preferments, for his Loyalty to King *Charles I.* He died, it is said, in 1660, and was buried at *Messing*.

9. LAURENCE WOMACK, M.A., (soon after, D.D.) Rector of *Horning* and *Bexford* in *Suffolk*, was collated to this Prebend July 5, and installed Sept. 22, 1660: the same year was made Archdeacon of *Suffolk*; and collated to the Prebend of *Preston* in the Church of *Hereford*. He was promoted to the See of *St. David's*, and consecrated Bishop thereof, Nov. 11, 1683; but he held this Prebend, either *in Commendam*, or by Dispensation, till his death; which happened on March 12, 1685-6: he was buried in *St. Margaret's Church, Westminster*, where is a white Marble Monument affixed to one of the Pillars at the West-end of the Church, with the underwritten Inscription.\*

10. FRANCIS ROPER, B.D., Fellow of *St. John's College, Cambridge*, and Vicar of *Waterbeach* in *Cambridgeshire*, was collated to this Prebend on the day his Predecessor Bp. *Womack* died, viz. Mar. 12; and was installed Apr. 1, 1686. He resigned *Waterbeach* about Michaelmas following, and became Rector of *Northwold* in *Norfolk*. He was deprived in 1690, for refusing to take the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament: and dying Apr. 13, 1719, was buried in *St. John's College Chapel*, without any memorial.

11. FRANCIS FERNE, M.A., Rector of *Downham* near *Ely*, was instituted to this Prebend Oct. 23, 1690, being presented thereto by the Crown, by reason of the deprivation of Mr. *Roper*. He had been Fellow of *St. John's College, Cambridge*; and in 1680, became Master of the Grammar-School at *Wisbech* in the *Isle of Ely*; and Rector of *Downham*, Dec. 30, 1689. He died in his Prebendal House at *Ely*, and was

buried

\* "Hic juxta reconditur quod mortale fuit Rev. in Christo Patris LAURENTII WOMACK Episcopi *Menevensis*, qui post multorum annorum operam Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ egregie navatam, Insulam Coronâ Immortalitatis commutavit, Mar. 12, 1685, Ætat. 73: Necnon Filia unicæ suæ *Anne*, quæ 3 Oct. præced. ad Animarum Virginum confortium, (quovis conjugio præstantius,) 19 annorum Virgo hinc evocata est."

buried Aug. 24, 1713, in the Presbytery of the Cathedral Church, at the West-end of Bp. *Gunning's* Grave-stone; but without any memorial.

12. WHADCOCK PRIEST, B.D., Rector of *Afwarby* in *Lincolnshire*, and Fellow of *Clare-Hall, Cambridge*; was collated to this Prebend Mar. 2, and likewise to the Rectory of *Downham*, (both vacant by Mr. *Ferne's* death,) Mar. 31, 1714. He died of the Small-pox at *Cambridge*, and was buried in the North Isle of *St. Edward's Church* there, Jan. 8, 1714-5; without any memorial.

13. RALPH PERKINS, LL.D., was born in *London* about the year 1658, educated at *Charter-House School*, and thence admitted of *Queen's College, Cambridge*, in 1675; where he was elected Fellow, (being then B.A.,) in 1680: he became Chaplain to Bishop *Patrick*, who collated him to the Rectory of *Strettham* near *Ely*, June 8, 1696: he resigned his Fellowship in 1699; though he made the College his chief place of residence, for many years after; and was occasionally a considerable Benefactor to it; he was collated by Bishop *Fleetwood* to this Prebend, Jan. 15, 1714-5:—resigned his Rectory of *Strettham*, Oct. 10, 1727; and some time after, having divided his large and valuable collection of Books, between this Church Library, and that of *Queen's College*, retired to *London*; where having lived to the age of 93, or upwards, he died in May 1751: but gave in his life-time, to the Corporation for the relief of Clergymen's Widows and Children, and other publick Charities, above 3500*l*.

14. JOHN-SAMUEL HILL, D.D., was born in *Cambridge*, A.D. 1715; educated at *Kingsdon upon Hull School*; and admitted of *St. John's College*; where having taken his Degree of B.A., in 1737; and that of M.A. in 1741; he was nominated by Bishop *Butts* to the Bishop of *Ely's* Fellowship in that College, July 3, 1742. He was afterwards presented to the Rectory of *Thorneton*, near *Old-Malton* in *Yorkshire*; became Chaplain to Archbishop *Herring*, who gave him a Prebend in the Church of *York*; and, after his translation to *Canterbury*, also nominated him, by virtue of his Option, to the Sixth Stall in this Church, to which he was admitted May 20, and installed May 27, 1751. He died at *Thorneton* in September 1757, and was there buried.

15. THOMAS D'OYLY, LL.D., Archdeacon of *Lewes*, and Chancellor of the Church of *Chichester*, formerly Fellow of *All-Souls College, Oxford*, was collated to this Prebend Sept. 21, and installed Sept. 22, 1757. He was also Rector of *St. Mary Abchurch, London*, and of *St. Peter's* in the Town of *St. Alban's, Hertfordshire*. He died at *Kensington*, Jan. 27, 1770, aged 60, and was buried in *Cheswick Church*.<sup>1</sup>

16. MATTHIAS D'OYLY, M.A., eldest Son of the above-mentioned Dr. *Thomas D'Oyly*, was collated Feb. 1, and installed Feb. 7, 1770. He was of *Wyngimster School*, thence admitted of *Bene't College, Cambridge*; where having taken his Degree of B.A. in 1765, he proceeded to his Degree of M.A. 1768. He was presented by his Father, (as Chancellor of the Church of *Chichester*,) to the Living of *Pewsey* in *Suffex*, in 1767; and is the present possessor of this Stall, June 25, 1770.

PRE-

<sup>1</sup> Dr. D'OYLY died about 6 o'clock in the Evening of Jan. 27; his Wife having been struck with the Palsy that Afternoon, and dying before the next Morning, they were both buried together in the same Vault in *Cheswick Church*.



## HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES OF THE PREBENDARIES of the Seventh Stall.

1. ROBERT HAMOND, Priest, late one of the Monks, and Sub-Prior of this Monastery, at the time of it's dissolution; was nominated the Seventh Prebendary of this Church, by the King's new Foundation-Charter, Sept. 10, 1541. He afterwards became Vicar of *Stapleford* in *Cambridgeshire*: but was deprived of both his preferments, in the First year of *Queen Mary's* reign, 1554, for being married.

2. THOMAS ELLIS, Vicar of *Blackmore* in *Essex*, and last Prior of the late dissolved Priory of Black Canons at *Leighs-Parva* in that County, was presented by *Queen Mary* to this Prebend, and was admitted to it May 11, 1554. He afterwards exchanged this Prebend in 1556, for the Fourth Prebend in *Norwich* Cathedral, with

3. THOMAS PEACOCKE, B.D., formerly Fellow of *St. John's* College *Cambridge*; afterwards Chantry-Priest in *St. Laurence's* Church in *Ipswich*; and Rector of *Nackton* in *Suffolk*. He was installed Prebendary of *Norwich* Apr. 23, 1554: and Bishop *Thirlby*, after his translation to the See of *Ely*, collated him to the Rectory of *Downham* near *Ely*, Oct. 25, 1555; about which time he became Master of *Queen's* College in *Cambridge*: the next year he got an exchange of his Prebend of *Norwich*, for the Seventh Stall in this Cathedral; to which he was collated by the Bishop, Nov. 30, 1556;<sup>1</sup> and was afterwards presented to the Rectory of *Barley* in *Hertfordshire*. In the year 1559, he was deprived of his Masterhip of *Queen's* College, and of this Prebend, if not of his other preferments; and was succeeded here, by

4. EDWARD GASCOINE, L.L.D.; the time of whose admission does not appear: He was Master of *Jesus* College, *Cambridge*, in 1560; and Chancellor to Bishop *Cox*; in whose *Certificatorium*<sup>2</sup> of the state of this Diocese Jan. 28, 1560-1, he is thus returned as the Seventh Prebendary of *Ely*; "Master *Edward Gascoyne* there, is a Deacon, does not much reside there, but at *Cambridge*, where he lives; is L.L.D; not qualified for Preaching; nor has he a special Licence for it; nor does he keep Hospitality there." By another account,<sup>3</sup> "He was a *Yorkshire-man* born; Fellow of *Peter-House*; died 1563, aged 80; and gave his Books to *Jesus* College Library." His Successor here was

5. JOHN MAY, D.D., probably in the year 1563; but the time of his admission to this Prebend is not set down. He was a *Suffolk-man* born, and Brother of *William May*, LL.D., Prebendary of this Church, Master of *Queen's* College *Cambridge*, afterwards Archbishop Elect of *York*; and was elected Fellow of *Queen's* College in 1550, whilst his Brother was Master. In 1560, he was Rector of *Stanton St. Michael's* in *Cambridgeshire*; and was elected Master of *Catharine-Hall* that year; and soon after created D.D. He afterwards became Rector of *Darfield*, and Archdeacon of *East-Riding* in *Yorkshire*, to which he was admitted Aug. 3, 1569; and the same year was elected Vicechancellor of *Cambridge*. In 1577, he was promoted to the See of *Carlisle*, by the interest and recommendation of the Earl of *Shrewsbury*; which favour he acknowledged by a Letter to him, dated at *Huntingdon* June 1, that year, being then  
Bishop

This was the first Collation to a Prebend of *Ely*: Bishop *Thirlby* having just then obtained a Grant from the Crown, of the Advowson of the Eight Prebends of this Church, to himself and his Successors, dated Nov. 27, 1556. Rym. Fœd. vol. xv. p. 451. <sup>2</sup> MS. in Bene't Coll. Library. Miscellan. V. <sup>3</sup> Ex informatione Doctoris Br. Willis.



Bishop-Elect; requesting to hold his Rectory of *Darfield* in *Commendam*; (Lord *Scroop* having then the use of *Rose-Castle*, till *Michaelmas*;)—and he having given up lately the Mastership of *Catbarine-Hall*, in favour of one of his Lordship's Chaplains.<sup>1</sup> He was consecrated Bishop of *Carlisle* Sept. 29, 1577; but held this Prebend in *Commendam*, till 1582. He died on Feb. 15, 1597-8, and was buried in his Cathedral Church of *Carlisle*.

6. EDMUND BARWELL, D.D., Master of *Christ* College in *Cambridge*, was presented by the Queen to this Prebend, and was admitted May 10, 1582. He was instituted to the Rectory of *Toft* in *Cambridgeshire*, Oct. 14, 1584: whether he held any other Benefice, does not appear. He was present in Chapter Sept. 22, 1609, at the Election of Dr. *Andrews* Bishop of *Ely*; and dying before Christmas following, was buried in *Christ* College Chapel.

7. JOHN DUPORT, D.D., Master of *Jesus* College in *Cambridge*, succeeded to this Prebend between *Michaelmas* and *Christmas* 1609. He was Son of *Thomas Duport* of *Shepshed* in *Leicestershire*, Esq.; became Fellow of *Jesus* College, *Cambridge*; and was one of the University Proctors in 1580; in which year he was instituted to the Rectory of *Harleton* in *Cambridgeshire*: and afterwards became Rector of *Bosworth* and *Medbourne* in his native County of *Leicester*. In 1583, Dec. 24, he was collated to the *Sine-cure* Rectory of *Fulham* in *Middlesex*; and succeeded *Henry Hervey* LL.D. Apr. 29, 1585, in the Precentorship of *St. Paul's*, *London*: became Master of *Jesus* College in 1590; was four times elected Vicechancellor of the University, in 1593, 1594, 1601, and 1609: and was one of those Learned Men employed by King *James I.* in Translating the Bible. He died about or soon after *Christmas* 1617; and was succeeded by

8. SAMUEL COLLINS, D.D., Provost of *King's* College in *Cambridge*. This very eminent and learned Man, was a Native of *Buckingham*; educated at *Eton* School; and became Fellow of *King's* College in *Cambridge*: his first ecclesiastical preferment, seems to have been the Vicarage of *Braintree* in *Essex*; to which he was presented by *Robert* Lord *Rich*, and was instituted Feb. 15, 1610-11:<sup>2</sup> afterwards, proceeding to his Degree of D.D., he was elected Provost of *King's* College in 1615; became *Regius* Professor in Divinity Oct. 22, 1617; and Feb. 19, following, was collated by Bishop *Andrews* to this Prebend: his other preferments were the Rectory of *Fen-Ditton*, and the *Sine-cure* Rectory of *Milton* in *Cambridgeshire*. He was in all respects a Man of great Worth and Abilities; and no one ever discharged the office of Publick Professor in Divinity, with greater credit to the University. But notwithstanding his extraordinary merits, his Loyalty in the times of the Great Rebellion, was judged an insuperable objection against him; so that he was in 1644 ejected from all his preferments, except his Professorship; which he was in some measure obliged to keep, as another could not easily be found equal to it, or that chose to accept it: so that he continued to discharge that office as usual, two or three years after. On the death of Dr. *Thomas Howel*, Bishop of *Bristol*, in 1646, he had an offer made him of that Bishoprick; but declined it. Some little time before his death, he is said to have been removed from his Professorship, by order of Parliament: after which he lived retired at *Cambridge*; and dying on Sept. 16, 1651, was buried in *King's* College Chapel.

9. JOSEPH

<sup>1</sup> Strype's Annals of the Reformation. pag. 433.    <sup>2</sup> Newcourt's Repertorium. vol. ii. p. 89.



9. JOSEPH BEAUMONT, M.A., was Fellow of *Peter-House* in *Cambridge*; but ejected thence in the time of the Rebellion Apr. 8, 1644; having been presented by Bishop *Wren*, during his confinement in the Tower, on Jan. 11, preceeding, to the Rectory of *Kelshal* in *Hertfordshire*: the same Patron also collated him to the *Sine-cure* Rectory of *Elm cum Emneth* in the *Isle of Ely*, Apr. 18, 1646; and likewise to the Rectory of *Gransden Parva* in *Cambridgeshire*, July 5, 1650. After the Restoration of King *Charles II*, he was admitted to the Degree of D.D. by a Royal Mandate dated July 28, 1660: and having sometime before, been collated to this Prebend, was installed Sept. 22, 1660. He was made Master of *Jesus College*, Apr. 17, 1662; and Jan. 23, following, was collated to the Rectory of *Conington*. The next year, on the death of Dr. *Hale* Master of *Peter-House*, the Fellows of the College having been somewhat irregular in their proceedings to a new Election; the Bishop, as Visitor of the College, appointed Dr. *Beaumont* to that Mastership, Apr. 11, 1663; and also collated him Apr. 11, 1664, to the Rectory of *Tewkesham* in *Cambridgeshire*; but he resigned that Living soon after, and was June 3, following, presented to the Rectory of *Barley* in *Hertfordshire*. He resigned this Stall Oct. 20, 1665, in exchange for the Eighth Stall,<sup>1</sup> with

10. RICHARD BALL, D.D.,<sup>2</sup> who was accordingly installed here the next day, viz. Oct. 21, 1665. He was afterwards made Master of the *Temple, London*; where he died, Apr. 6, 1684, and was buried in the Vestry of the *Temple Church*, with an Inscription on his Grave-stone, as under.<sup>3</sup>

11. JOHN NALSON, LL.D., Rector of *Dodington cum March*, in the *Isle of Ely*, was collated to this Prebend Apr. 11, and installed Apr. 17, 1684. He was Author of those Volumes of Collections which go under his Name; died March 24, 1685-6, aged 43 years; and was buried in the Cathedral, with the under-written Inscription.<sup>4</sup>

12. THOMAS TURNER, D.D., one of the Sons of *Thomas Turner*, D.D., late Dean of *Canterbury*, and Brother of Dr. *Francis Turner*, Bishop of *Ely*, was collated by his Brother, to this Prebend Mar. 26, and installed Apr. 1, 1686. He was born in *Bristol* 1645, and educated at *Corpus-Christi College* in *Oxford*, of which he was elected Fellow:

<sup>1</sup> See the 8th Stall.    <sup>2</sup> Of whom see more, among the Prebendaries of the 8th Stall.

<sup>3</sup> "Ille jacet RICHARDUS BALL, S.T.P. Carolo II Capellanus, Dominus utriusque Templi Magister et Servus. Obiit die 6 Aprilis, A.D. 1684, Ætatis suæ 86."

<sup>4</sup> "JOHANNES NALSON, LL.D. hujus Ecclesiæ Canonicus, Eccl. de *Dodington* cum Capellâ de *March* Rector; Vir in Ecclesiâ, Republicâ, Orbe literato, nunquam satis celebrandus; qui summâ Eruditione, Acumine singulari Doctrinam et Disciplinam Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ Apostolicam, divina Regum *Angliæ* Jura, et sacrosanctam Majestatem contra Fanaticum schismaticorum Rebellionem Puritatis et Libertatis pretextum, feliciter propugnavit; nec calamo solum, sed vitâ ferè et sanguine labantem Regis et Ecclesiæ causam asseruit, Factionis in Comitibus dominantis insolentiam et furori ausus se opponere; à quibus novâ Authoritate, inaudito Exemplo citatus, in carcerem conjectus, tantum non oppressus est; sed eo magis Bonorum omnium æstimatione, præsertim Principis augustissimi *Caroli* secundi, et sacratissimi Præsulis *Petri Eliensis* favori commendatus; ab hoc in Canonicorum suorum Collegium ascriptus, et ad sanctissimam amicitiam, intimam necessitudinem, unius *Laris* et Mensæ consortium benigne vocatus; ab illo Regii Favoris et Patrocinii præsidio munitus contra grassantem Factionis invidiam et furorem: Et (cum solus tanto operi par merito videretur) jussus horrendæ Schismaticorum Rebellionis, quæ *Carolo* Primo Martyri Sceptrum et Vitam infando Bello et execrabili Parricidio eripuit, Originem et Progressum justâ et fidei, ex Actis publicis, summo et Literarum et Historiæ dispendio, imperfectum destituit Authoris ad Laborum Requiem et Mercedem vocati præmaturus nec satis Orbi et Ecclesiæ deservendus Obitus 24 Die Martii, A.D. 1685-6, Ætat. 43."



Fellow: he afterwards became Chaplain to Dr. *Henry Compton* Bishop of *London*, who collated him Nov. 4, 1680, to the Rectory of *Therley* in *Hertfordshire*; and Dec. 20 following, to the Archdeaconry of *Essex*; and in 1682, to the Prebend of *Mapeföury* in *St. Paul's, London*. He commenced D.D. at *Oxford* July 2, 1683; and was elected President of *Corpus-Christi* College, Mar. 13, 1687-8; and the same year, May 7, was instituted to the *Sine-cure* Rectory of *Fulham*, on the presentation of his Brother the Bishop of *Ely*, to whom the Advowson thereof, for that turn, had been granted; (the Bishop of *London* being then under suspension;)<sup>1</sup> and at length was made Precentor and Prebendary of *Brownfwood* in *St. Paul's*, Jan. 11, 1689. What his political Principles were at the Revolution, we are not told: though, by keeping possession of his Preferments, it is to be presumed, he did not follow the example of his Brother the Bishop of *Ely*, but took the Oaths of Allegiance to their Majesties. However, we are informed,<sup>2</sup> after the Act passed in the last year of King *William III*, requiring the Abjuration Oath to be taken before Aug. 1, 1702, under penalty of forfeiting all ecclesiastical preferments; that Dr. *Turner* went down from *London* to *Oxford* July 28, seemingly with full resolution not to take the Oath, but to quit all his preferments: but on better advice, he made no resignation; knowing that if he was legally called upon to prove his compliance with the Act, his preferments would be void in course; and so continued to act, as if he had taken the Oath: by which means he retained his preferments to his death, without ever taking it at all. He died Apr. 30, 1714, and was buried in the Chapel of *Corpus-Christi* College, where there is a Monument, and an Inscription written by *Edmund Chishull*, B.D.<sup>3</sup>

13. SAMUEL KNIGHT, M.A., (afterwards D.D.) a Native of *London*, (where his Father was free of the Mercer's Company,) received the early part of his education at *St. Paul's* School; and was thence admitted of *Trinity* College in *Cambridge*; where having taken his Degree of M.A., he became Chaplain to *Edward* Earl of *Oxford*, who presented him to the Rectory of *Borough-Green* in *Cambridgeshire*, to which he was instituted Nov. 3, 1707. He afterwards was collated by Bishop *Moore* to this Prebendal Stall, June 8, 1714; and presented by him to the Rectory of *Bluntesham* in *Huntingdonshire*, June 22, following: was made Chaplain to his late Majesty 1729; and promoted by Bishop *Sherlock* to the Archdeaconry of *Berks*, 1735. He died Dec. 10, 1746, in the 72d year of his Age, and was buried in the Chancel of *Bluntesham* Church, where

<sup>1</sup> Newcourt's Repert. v. i. pag. 74. <sup>2</sup> Memoirs of the Life of William Whiston, written by himself. pag. 176, &c. <sup>3</sup> Dr. *Turner* was a single Man, and remarkable for his Munificence and Charity in his life-time: and by his Will left the bulk of his Fortunes, which were very considerable, to publick and charitable uses; for besides 4000*l.* in legacies to his Relations and Friends; he gave or left to his College 6000*l.* for improving the Buildings, and other purposes;—to the Dean and Chapter of *Ely* 1000*l.* for augmenting the Singing-Men's Stipends, and 100*l.* the interest whereof to be expended in putting out Children of the Town of *Ely* Apprentices, at the nomination of his Successors in this Stall; and the remainder of his effects, which amounted to 20000*l.*, his Executors were directed to lay out in Estates and Lands, and settle them on the Governors of the Charity for relief of poor Widows and Children of Clergymen. — His Executors accordingly purchased the Manor of *Stow*\* in *Northamptonshire*, and other Estates there, and at *West-Wrattling* in *Cambridgeshire*, amounting to above 1000*l.* a year, and settled them, A.D. 1716, agreeably to his Will; and moreover erected a sumptuous Monument in *Stow* Church, to his Memory; with an Inscription, which may be seen in Dr. Willis's Survey of this Cathedral, pag. 390.

\* *Stow Nine-Churches.*



where a neat Monument of white Marble is erected to his Memory, with an Inscription,<sup>1</sup> written by his Friend Mr. *Castle* late Dean of *Hereford*, who knew him well, and has given him a very worthy Character; and such as all those who remember Dr. *Knight*, will readily allow to be a very just one.

14. EYTON BUTTS, M.A., eldest Son of Bishop *Butts*, educated at *Charter-House* School, *London*, was thence admitted of *Catharine-Hall*, *Cambridge*; where having taken his Degree of B.A. in 1740, he was elected Fellow of that Society; and proceeded to his Degree of M.A.<sup>2</sup> in 1742. He was ordained Priest in April 1744; and on Mar. 5, 1744-5, was presented by his Father to the Rectory of *Snailwell* in *Cambridgeshire*; collated to this Prebend vacant by Dr. *Knight's* death, Dec. 13, 1746; and likewise presented to the Rectory of *Feltwell* St. *Nicholas* in *Norfolk*, Jan. 20, following: All which preferments he exchanged Feb. 12, 1754, for the Chancellorship of *Leighlin* in *Ireland*, and some other preferments in expectation,<sup>3</sup> with

15. BARNARD GARNETT, D.D., who on the said exchange, was collated by Bishop *Gooch* to this Prebend, and presented to the abovementioned Rectories of *Snailwell*, and *Feltwell* St. *Nicholas*, the same day, viz. Feb. 12, 1754, only two days before the Bishop's death. Dr. *Garnett* was a Native of *York*, and Brother of Dr. *John Garnett* then Bishop of *Leighlin* and *Fernes*, and now of *Clogher* in *Ireland*; and was admitted of *Sidney-Sussex* College in *Cambridge* in 1733; took his Degree of B.A. in 1736-7, and that of M.A. in 1740; became Vicar of *Wilshamsted* in *Bedfordshire*; was created D.D. in 1753; and dying at *Bath* about the middle of January 1768, was succeeded by

16. JOHN WARREN, M.A., Son of *Richard Warren*, D.D. Archdeacon of *Suffolk*, and Rector of *Cavendish* in that County. He was educated at *Bury St. Edmund's* School; thence admitted of *Gonville* and *Caius* College in *Cambridge*; He proceeded to the Degree of B.A. 1750-51, and to that of M.A. in 1754; was made Rector of *Leverington* in the *Isle of Ely* by Bishop *Gooch*; became afterwards domestick Chaplain to the present Bishop, who collated him first to the Rectory of *Teversham* in *Cambridgeshire*, and afterwards to this Prebend, and presented him to the Rectory of *Snailwell*, (on his resigning *Teversham*,) the same day, viz. Jan. 23, 1768:—to whom I take this opportunity of acknowledging my self obliged for his friendly suggestions respecting this Work, particularly for undertaking, at my request, *The Historical Account of the Royal Franchise of Ely*, printed in the Appendix, Numb. xxvii. He is the present possessor of this Stall, June 29, 1770.

## PRE-

<sup>1</sup> “ Hic juxta situs est SAMUEL KNIGHT, S.T.P. Ecclesiæ *Eliensis* Præbendarius, Com. *Berkenfis* Archidiaconus, et hujus Ecclesiæ Rector: Rei Antiquariæ cujuscumque generis Cultor studiosus; præcipue vero Famæ Virorum Ingenii, Virtutis et Literarum laude maximè insignium, Fautor eximius; prout ea, quæ scripsit de Vita rebusque gestis celeb. *Erasmi* et *Coleti*, palàm testatum faciunt. Concionando assiduus; rebusque gerendis sedulus, præsertim iis quibus aut Amorem inter Amicos, locorum longinquitate diffitos, fovere, aut publicum Ecclesiæ commodum promovere, aut quamplurimis prodesse potuerit: adeo ut posteris jure commendetur, tanquam Humano generi Amicus. Laboribus, Studiis, Negotiis, tandem confectus, in hoc loco placidam invenit quietem, beatam expectans Resurrectionem. Ob. Dec. 10, 1746. Ætat. 72. Hoc Monumentum, Reverentiæ et Pietatis ergo, posuit Filius unicus.”

<sup>2</sup> Quæ Episcopi Filius.    <sup>3</sup> He has lately been promoted to the Deanery of *Cloyne*.

## PREBENDARIES of the Eighth Stall.

1. JOHN WARD Priest, late one of the Monks and Sacrist of this Priory; after it's dissolution, was nominated by the King to the Eighth Prebend in this Church, by his new Foundation-Charter, Sept. 10, 1541. What other preferment he held afterwards, I find not, neither the time of his death: but his Successor in this Stall, was

2. EDWARD LEEDS, M.A., a Native of *Benenden* in *Kent*, and a Student in *Bene't College* in *Cambridge*, where he commenced M.A. about the year 1547. Bishop *Goodrich* conferred on him the Rectory of *Gransden-Parva* in *Cambridgeshire*, June 20, 1548; the same year<sup>1</sup> he was instituted to this Prebend; and afterwards collated to the Rectory of *Newton* with the Chapel of *St. Mary on the Sea-coast* annexed; and Feb. 12, 1551-2, to the *Sine-cure* Rectory of *Elm cum Emneth* in the *Isle of Ely*: he was also Chancellor to Bishop *Goodrich*, and one of his Executors. In the beginning of Queen *Mary's* reign, he resigned his Livings of *Gransden* and *Newton*; but seems to have kept possession of his other preferments, till Queen *Elizabeth's* accession; when he admitted himself a Member of Doctors Commons, *London*; and was made Chaplain to Archbishop *Parker*; became Rector of *Cottenham* in *Cambridgeshire*; Master of *St. John's Hospital* in *Ely*, as also of *Clare-Hall* in *Cambridge*; and Precentor of the Church of *Lichfield*; and proceeded to his Degree of LL.D. in 1569: he was also a Master in Chancery, and had the Character of one of the most eminent Civilians of that Age: proved a considerable Benefactor to *Clare-Hall*, having procured of the Queen a Grant of *St. John's Hospital*, and with consent of the Bishop, surrendered the whole site and possessions thereof, to the Master and Fellows of *Clare-Hall* for ever; which Grant was confirmed by the Dean and Chapter of *Ely*, Mar. 26, 1562. About the year 1570, he purchased the Manor of *Croxton* in *Cambridgeshire* of Sir *Richard Sackville*, and rebuilt the Manor-House, and was himself also instituted to the Rectory of *Croxton*, July 14, 1573. He resigned his Masterhip of *Clare-Hall* in 1571, *Cottenham* in 1581, and his Rectory of *Croxton* and this Prebend in 1584: after which he retired to his Manor of *Croxton*; and dying Feb. 17, 1589-90, was buried in the Chancel of that Church, where is a handsome Monument of Stone to his memory, with a small Figure of him in Brass, and an Inscription as below.<sup>2</sup>

3. JAMES TAYLOR, B.D., (afterwards D.D.) Vicar of *Sutton* near *Ely*, was presented by the Queen to this Stall, and instituted June 2, 1587. He became Rector of *Aspden* and of *Westmill* in *Hertfordshire*; and dying Mar. 19, 1622, was buried at *Westmill*.

## 4. JOHN

<sup>1</sup> Willis's Surv. Cath. of Ely, p. 391.

<sup>2</sup> "EDWARDUS LEEDS, LL.D. natus apud *Benenden* in Com. *Cantii*, dudum Magister Aulæ *Clare* in Academia *Cantabrigiensi*; et tam in eadem Aula, quam in Collegio *Emanuelis* Benefactor\* cum primis; Unus Magistrorum Cancellariæ, et Dominus Manerii de *Croxton*; obiit 17 die Feb. A.D. 1589; cujus Corpus hic jacet sepultum."

\* He gave an Estate of 16 l. a year to Emmanuel College, and 1000 Marks towards rebuilding that College.



4. JOHN CROPLEY, D.D., sometime Fellow of *Trinity College* in *Cambridge*, Rector of *Newton* and of *Girton* in this Diocese, was collated to this Stall, before Mar. 25, 1623. He died soon after Michaelmas 1629; and was succeeded by

5. WILLIAM EYRE, B.D., Rector of *Horkefly-Magna* in *Essex*, who occurs Prebendary of this Stall Dec. 25, 1629; and was also in possession of it at Christmas 1641; but died soon after; for

6. JOHN BUCKERIDGE, M.A., was collated Feb. 21, 1641-2, to this Prebend, said to be vacant by the death of Mr. *Eyre*. He was Rector of *Willingham* in *Cambridgeshire*; and dying in the time of the Usurpation, about the end of the year 1651, was succeeded by

7. RICHARD BALL, M.A., sometime Fellow of *Pembroke-Hall, Cambridge*, and Rector of *Wilby* and *Westerfield* in *Suffolk*, who was collated to this Prebend, Jan. 19, 1651-2, but not installed here, (being then D.D.,) till Sept. 22, 1660; in which month, he was also installed Prebendary of *Biggleswade* in *Lincoln Cathedral*. Towards the end of *Cromwell's* Usurpation, he was Rector of *St. Mary Woolchurch, London*, and was a Preacher much followed by the Loyal party: soon after the King's Restoration, he became Chaplain in ordinary to his Majesty: and Bishop *Wren* presented him to the Rectory of *Bluntisham* in *Huntingdonshire*, Aug. 18, 1662. He exchanged this Prebend Oct. 20, 1665, for the Seventh Stall,<sup>1</sup> with

8. JOSEPH BEAUMONT, D.D., who was accordingly installed Oct. 21, 1665. Some account of him has been given already:<sup>2</sup> to which must be added, that he was elected *Regius* Professor in Divinity in 1672. He died Nov. 23, 1699, in the 84th year of his age, and was buried in *Peter-House Chapel*, with the underwritten Inscriptions on his Grave-stone, and on a Mural Monument there erected to his memory.<sup>3</sup> At the time of his death, he was Master of *Peter-House*, *Regius* Professor in Divinity, Prebendary of this Church, Rector of *Barley* in *Hertfordshire*, of *Tewersham* in *Cambridgeshire*, and of the *Sine-cure* Rectory of *Elm cum Emneth* in the *Isle of Ely*.

## 9. WILLIAM

<sup>1</sup> See among the Prebendaries of the Seventh Stall.    <sup>2</sup> Pag. 262.

<sup>3</sup> On his Grave-stone, "Depositum Viri admodum reverendi JOSEPHI BEAUMONT, S.T.P. Regii, et Ecclesiæ Eliensis Canonici; qui obiit 23 die Nov. A.D. 1699, Ætatis suæ 84: hic requiescit in spe beatæ resurrectionis."

On a Mural Monument, "P. M. J. SEPHI BEAUMONT, S.T.P. Regii, et hujus Collegii Custodis dignissimi; qui Doctrinæ omnis et Pietatis Gazophylacium fuit augustissimum, Poeta, O-rator, Theologus præstantissimus, quovis nomine Hæreticorum malleus, et Veritatis vindex palmaris. Obiit Ætatis suæ Anno 84, (illustre specimen, quod egregiis aliquando producat ætas,) A.D. 1699, in ipso nempe Seculi pede, utpotè Literatorum, qui in illo florere, non modo Coronis, verumetiam Summa.

At tibi quod bini orrentur, Vir maxime, Cippi,  
Hic auri, ille marmoris, veniam dato:  
Non metus ut vigeat seris tua gloria Seclis,  
Sed nostra id importunior pietas facit:  
Nètro scimus eges, cum Scripta reliqueris Auro  
Pretiosiora, perenniora Marmore."

9. WILLIAM COLDWELL, M.A., Vicar of *Wisbech*, in the *Isle of Ely*, was collated to this Prebend, Dec. 15, and installed Dec. 29, 1699. He died June 8, 1702, and was buried in *Wisbech Church*, where there is a Monument erected to his Memory, with an Inscription as below.<sup>1</sup>

10. JAMES SMITH, B.D., (afterwards, D.D.) Rector of *Cottenham* in *Cambridgeshire*, was collated to this Prebend, and installed June 22, 1702. He had been Fellow of *Queen's College* in *Cambridge*; and became domestick Chaplain to Bishop *Patrick*, by whom he was first presented to the Rectory of *Rattenden* in *Essex*, Dec. 18, 1693; but quitted that Living on being collated by his Patron to the Rectory of *Cottenham*, Oct. 11, 1698. He died June 8, 1715, and was buried in *Cottenham Church*, under a Marble inscribed, as below.<sup>2</sup>

11. STEPHEN WESTON, D.D., sometime Fellow of *King's College, Cambridge*; Second Master also of *Eton School*; and afterwards Fellow of *Eton*, and Vicar of *Mapledereham* in *Oxfordshire*; was collated to this Prebend, and installed June 23, 1715. He resigned this Stall about Lady-Day 1717; and was afterwards promoted to the See of *Exeter*, being consecrated Bishop thereof Dec. 28, 1724. He died at his Palace at *Exeter*, Jan. 16, 1741-2, aged 77, and was buried in his Cathedral. His Abilities both as a Scholar and Divine, are so well displayed by Bishop *Sherlock*,<sup>3</sup> in a Preface to his Sermons and Discourses, published since his death; that nothing further need be said of them here.

12. WILLIAM POWELL, M.A., Nephew of Bishop *Fleetwood*, was born at *Hampton-Court*, where his Father, (who was of a good Family, seated near *Bishops-Castle* in *Shropshire*,) had some place under the King. His School-education was at *Eton*,

<sup>1</sup> "Near this place lyeth the Body of WILLIAM COLDWELL, Prebendary of Ely; who lived 51 years Vicar of this Church: He died the 8th day of June, aged 78 years, in the year of our Lord 1702. His first Wife was Judith the Daughter of John Leman of Tudenham in the County of Norfolk, Gent. by whom he had six Children, Prudence only surviving, who married William Fiennes, Esq; His second Wife was Jane, one of the Daughters and Coheirs of Anthony Goldborough of Lapley in the County of Huntingdon, Esq; by whom he had seven Children, two only surviving, Martha, who married James Balder of Sutton in the County of Lincoln, Esq; and William his only Son, who married Mary, one of the Daughters of Thomas Edwards of this Town, Esq;. He died February 11, 1706, at Welwin in the County of Hartford, and lyeth there interred, whose Widow in testimony of her Affection to her Husband's Father, erected this Monument in the year of our Lord 1708."

<sup>2</sup> "Sub hoc marmore conduntur reliquiae JACOBI SMITH, S.T.P. Collegii Reginalis apud Cantab. olim Socii; quem sanctissimus Præsul Symon Eliensis nuper Episcopus, propter morum candorem, sui haud abfimilem, ut sibi a Sacris Domesticeis esset, elegit; quem postea Rectorem hujus Ecclesiæ de Cottenham constituit, A.D. 1693; ac deinde inter Canonicos Elienses censerî jussit, A.D. 1702. Qui (post obitum dilectissimæ Conjugis Penelopes, Dom. Richardi Kirle Equitis Aurati Filiæ, sub hoc etiam Saxo conditæ,) iniquâ valitudine diu conflictatus, morti tandem concessit 6 Id. Junii, A.D. 1715, Ætatis 58. Quem Doctrina singularis, cum summâ modestiâ, prudens in rebus agendis Solertia, cum summâ Integritate conjuncta, cuivis muneri obeundo parem fecerat: Eundem spectatissima Fides Amicis unicè carum, suavissimi Mores Notis ac Familiaribus meritò gratum, Religionis autem sinceræ Cultus, vitæque Sanctimonia Bonis omnibus verè observandum reddidit."

<sup>3</sup> See Preface to Bishop Weston's Sermons 8vo. 1747.



*Eton*, whence he was admitted of *St. John's College* in *Cambridge*; and having taken his Degree of M.A., was preferred in the Diocese of *St. Asaph*; became Rector of *Llanymynech*, Vicar of *Blodwell* in the County of *Salop*, Rector also of *Llangwm Sine-cure*, in *Denbighshire*, and one of the Canons of *St. Asaph*. After Bishop *Fleetwood's* translation to *Ely*, he collated him to this Prebend, vacant by *Dr. Weston's* resignation, in which he was installed April 6, 1717. He proceeded to his Degree of D.D. at *Cambridge* in 1730, being a Publick Commencement; the following year was made Dean of *St. Asaph*; and afterwards also Archdeacon of *Chester*. In the latter part of his life, being of a tender constitution, he resigned both his parochial Cures of *Llanymynech*, and *Blodwell*, as also this Prebend, Mar. 26, 1741; and having purchased an Estate at *Chrifftleton* near *Chester*, he retired thither, and made it the chief place of his residence, during the remainder of his life; and there dying April 14, 1751, Aged 72, he was buried, by his own appointment, in *Chrifftleton Church-yard*; and over his remains is placed a raised Tomb, inclosed with iron rails, with an Inscription, as below.<sup>1</sup>

13. JOHN PRICE, B.D., born at *Glynn*, in the Parish of *Llangollen* in *Denbighshire*, was Fellow of *Jesus College* in *Oxford*, and had the Living of *Evesham* in *Worcestershire*, when he was collated to this Prebend (on *Dr. Powell's* resignation,) April 10, and was installed Apr. 13, 1741. He soon after proceeded to his Degree of D.D.; and having quitted *Evesham*, was presented to the Rectory of *Denbigh*; of which he is now Rector; as he is likewise of *Llangwm Sine-cure*; Canon also of *St. Asaph*; and the present possessor of this Stall, July 5, 1770.

<sup>1</sup> "Here lieth the Body of WILLIAM POWELL, D.D. late Dean of *St. Asaph*, Archdeacon of *Chester*, and Rector of the Sine-cures of *Hope* and *Llangwm* in the Diocese of *St. Asaph*. The Preferments he enjoyed, did him less honour than those he resigned; having been Prebendary of *Ely*, Rector of *Llanymynech*, and Vicar of *Blodwell*, which he kept no longer than his health permitted him to discharge the duties of them. His affecting Discourses from the Pulpit, were enforced by a religious and exemplary Life; his Friendship was sincere, and the proofs of it uncommon; and his Charity to the poor was constant and considerable. He departed this Life April 14, 1751, Aged 72."

CONCERNING THE  
ARCHDEACONRY of CAMBRIDGE and of ELY.

**W**HILST the County of *Cambridge* continued part of the Diocese of *Lincoln*, it was under the same Archdeacon with *Huntingdonshire* and part of *Hertfordshire*: but the *Isle of Ely*, (though sometimes reckoned as part of *Cambridgeshire*,) having been always exempt from the jurisdiction of the Bishop of *Lincoln*, or indeed of any other Bishop; the Archidiaconal power thereof was vested in the Abby of *Ely*, and was exercised by the Sacrist of the Church. On the conversion therefore of the Abby of *Ely* into a Bishoprick, in 1109; and *Cambridgeshire* being then separated from the Church of *Lincoln*, and allotted for the Diocese of this new-erected See of *Ely*; a distinct Archdeacon was placed here, whose original Title was, Archdeacon of *Cambridge*; the Sacrist of the Church still being in possession of Archidiaconal jurisdiction throughout the whole *Isle of Ely*, as before: which form and order was observed during the life of *Nicholas* the First Archdeacon of *Cambridge*; but was broke through by his Successor *William de Laventon* the Second Archdeacon, who soon after his admission, by the Title of Archdeacon of *Cambridge*, with the consent, or at least by the connivance of his Uncle Bishop *Hervey*, assumed the Title of Archdeacon of *Ely*; and claimed and exercised jurisdiction, without any regard to the privileges and immunities of the Church; as well within the *Isle of Ely*, as the rest of the County of *Cambridge*. This, however, afterwards afforded occasion for a long and spirited controversy, between several of the Bishops of *Ely*, (who themselves came at length to claim sole jurisdiction within *the Isle*,) and their Archdeacons: which was at last finally determined, in the time of Bishop *Fordham*, and *John Welborn* Archdeacon, by Archbishop *Arundel*; to whose sole arbitration the matter was referred; and whose Judgment and Final Award, dated Nov. 19, 1401, is the Rule by which the separate Rights of the Bishop and Archdeacon are at present regulated and adjusted.—By virtue of this Decision and Judgment thus awarded, the Bishop of *Ely* hath the custody of all vacant Churches and Benefices within the City and Diocese of *Ely*; also all manner of ordinary jurisdiction in the City of *Ely*, and the Deaneries of *Ely*, and *Wisbech*, and in all these Villages and Manors here specifically mentioned, namely, *Wivelingham*, *Fen-Ditton*, *Horningsey*, *Teversham*, *Balskam*, *Great-Skefeld*, *Trisplow*, *Little-Gransden*, and *Hardwick*; and over all Rectors and Vicars of Churches, and other Beneficiaries of the Collation and Patronage of the Bishops of *Ely*; his own Official, Commissaries, Registers, and all other his Ministers, and menial Servants; likewise in all Religious Houses, and over all Persons belonging to them, throughout his Diocese: provided, that in case any of the Persons above described do offend within the limits of the Archdeacon's jurisdiction, then the Archdeacon shall present the Names of such delinquents, together with the specifick nature of their crimes, to the Bishop, his Official, or Commissary General; and if the Bishop does not proceed to canonical correction, either by himself, or his Ministers, within one month after such presentment made; then the Archdeacon may proceed, without further delay,



to their correction and punishment; except with regard to Persons of any Religious Order, whose correction was reserved solely to the Bishop; and the Archdeacon was not to intermeddle. The Bishop also by this Award hath the Probate of Wills, and right of granting Letters of Administration within the City of *Ely*, and the five Deaneries of *Ely*, *Wisbech*, *Camps*, *Chesterton*, and *Berton*; also of all Beneficed Persons and Chaplains within his Diocese; except that the Archdeacon hath that power in the Parish of *Wilberton* before appropriated, and the Parish of *Haddenham* by this Agreement intended to be appropriated to his Archdeaconry; and of all his own Officials, Commissaries, Register, and other Officers in his Consistory, and menial Servants; and likewise of all Persons dwelling and dying within the Deaneries of *Cambridge*, *Bourne*, and *Skynges*; — Beneficed Persons and Chaplains, and others before described, only excepted and reserved to the Bishop; always saving to the Archbishop of *Canterbury* his full prerogative of proving Wills of all Persons having effects in different Dioceses within his Province. The Bishop's sole right of convoking and holding Synods was confirmed; at which, the Archdeacon, or his Official, might be an Assessor, according to his state and degree. The Bishop is limited to Triennial Visitations within his Diocese; hath power of Induction into all Churches, Hospitals, and Benefices of his own Collation; and had also the Installation of all Religious Persons of both Sexes; except the Installation of the Abbot of *Thorney*, the Priors of *Bernwell* and *Anglesey*; and the Inductions of *Swavesey* and *Linton*, which were reserved to the Archdeacon. Moreover, the Archdeacon's right of holding his Consistory Court, is allowed; with power of appointing and removing his own Officers, and all kind of jurisdiction over them, and his own Servants; only they must obey the Bishop in all lawful and canonical commands; otherwise, they are subject to the Bishop's censure: the Archdeacon likewise hath cognizance, examination, and determination, *per viam preventionis*, of all Causes belonging to the Ecclesiastical Court, within his jurisdiction; except cases of the validity of Marriage and Divorces, and other matters, persons, and cases above-specified, and reserved by this Decree to the Bishop; except also cases of Appeal and Complaint: — the Archdeacon also holds his Visitation through the Diocese, for reformation of abuses in matters ecclesiastical and belonging to his office; except persons, places, and cases, by this Decree specially reserved to the Bishop. — I do not mean here to give the Reader a compleat and perfect account of all the distinct and separate Rights of the Bishop and Archdeacon, in respect of Ecclesiastical jurisdiction within the Diocese of *Ely*; but shall refer him to the Decree itself, and inform him where he may find it: <sup>1</sup> all that I shall observe further concerning this matter, is, that in recompense for some part of that jurisdiction, which former Archdeacons had claimed and exercised; it was further decreed, that the Bishop should appropriate to the Archdeaconry, the Rectory of *Haddenham* in the *Isle of Ely*; which appropriation was to take place on the next vacancy of that Rectory: and in the mean time, the Bishop was to pay annually a stipend of 40*l.* to the Archdeacon; which was to cease, as soon as he came into full possession of that Rectory. The

King's

<sup>1</sup> In the Bishop of *Ely*'s Register A. fol. 53, 54, &c; — also in Bp. Fordham's Register, fol. 220. — and in a MS. 8vo, called the Black Book, in the Bishop of *Ely*'s Register's Office in Cambridge.

King's Licence for that purpose, and the Pope's Confirmation thereof, were accordingly soon after obtained : and *William Noioun* Rector of *Haddenham*, at the time of this appropriation, died September 18, 1405 :<sup>1</sup> by whose death, the Rectory of *Haddenham* devolved to the then Archdeacon *John Welborn* ; and has ever since been enjoyed by his Successors.

This Dignity, of which the Bishop is Patron, is valued in the King's Books, at 97*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.*<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, and hath the Improvements of *Wilberton* and *Haddenham* in the *Ile of Ely*, annexed to it ; the former before 1291, and the latter in 1401.

## ARCHDEACONS.

1. **N**ICHOLAS, after the removal of the See of *Dorchester* to *Lincoln*, by Bishop *Remigius*, was appointed the first Archdeacon of the Counties of *Cambridge*, *Huntingdon*, and *Hertford*, about the year 1092 : and when *Cambridgeshire* was separated from the Church of *Lincoln*, to constitute a distinct Diocese for the new-erected See of *Ely*, in 1109 ; he continued in that office, without any diminution of his jurisdiction, under the respective Bishops of *Lincoln* and *Ely* ; and with regard to the latter, was called Archdeacon of *Cambridge*, not of *Ely* : for the *Ile of Ely*, (though accounted part of the County of *Cambridge*,) had always been exempt from his jurisdiction ; and the Archidiaconal power thereof, being vested in the Monastery, was exercised by the Sacrist of the Church of *Ely* ; the Archdeacon's jurisdiction extending only over the rest of the County of *Cambridge* : and even there the Church of *Ely* had some rights and dues, in their own Churches, and within their own Manors, which were collected and received by the Archdeacon, and by him paid to the Sacrist. These privileges and immunities the Church of *Ely* was in possession of, and continued to enjoy, during the life of *Nicholas*, the first Archdeacon of this Diocese ; who having some dispute with Bishop *Hervey*, relative to his office and jurisdiction, appealed to the Court of *Rome* ; and having set out, in order to prosecute his Appeal, fell sick, and died on his journey thither, about the year 1116, or 1117.

2. WILLIAM DE LAVENTON, a Native of *Wales*, and Nephew of Bishop *Hervey*, who at that time held some place in the King's Court ;<sup>2</sup> having, at the instance of his Uncle the Bishop, procured a Mandate from the King, directed to the Monks of *Ely*, to admit him Archdeacon ; was accordingly by them admitted ; but not before he had solemnly engaged, to pay the Convent a Pension, that had usually been paid by his Predecessor ; and not to interfere with the privileges and immunities of their

<sup>1</sup> He was buried in Haddenham Chancel, under a Marble inlaid with Brass, and thus inscribed, " Hic jacet WILLIELMUS NOIOUN ultimus Rector istius Ecclesiæ, et Canonicus Eccles. Cath. Ebor. Lincoln. et Cicestr., qui obiit 18 die Mensis Sept. A.D. 1405. Cujus Anime propicietur Deus. Amen."

<sup>2</sup> " Episcopus [*Herveus*] ut hoc novit, [mortem *Nicholai*,] a Rege Henrico Mandatum obtinuit, et Monachis subito in *Ely*, tanquam ab eo transmissum, hoc continens precepti, quatenus *Dispensatorem suum* quendam *Willielmum Britonem*, cognatum Episcopi, in Archidiaconum celeriter suscipiant." Lib. Elien. vet. MS. lib. iii. cap. 34. — Et in Rot. Mag. Scacc. incerti Anni Regis Henrici I, sic habetur, "*Herveus* Epus de *Ely* r. c. de 7 Marcis Auri et dimid. pro Ministerio *Willielmi* Nepotis sui." Vid. Discept. Epistolar. de Magno Rot. Scacc. ad finem *Madoxii Hist. de Scaccario*. pag. 74.



their Church, or their jurisdiction within the *Isle of Ely*: all which he readily promised to observe and keep; but soon after forgot his engagements, and began to call in question their privileges and jurisdiction: which occasioned a controversy between him and the Monks of the Church, which lasted all his time, and was carried on by his Successors; and at length was taken up by the Bishops, who afterwards claimed the sole Jurisdiction within the *Isle*, and held a long contest with their Archdeacons about it; which was not finally adjusted till 1401. This Archdeacon was Chaplain to King Henry I.; and obtained of his Uncle Bishop *Hervey* the Manor of *Pampesworth*, in *Cambridgeshire*, to be held of the Church by Military Service; and the Manor of *Little Thetford*, near *Ely*, to himself and Heirs, at the reserved Rent of 5 s. a year, to be paid to the Monks: which Grants were confirmed by King Henry I.<sup>1</sup> He held this Dignity till the latter part of Bishop *Nigellus's* time; and dying about the year 1160;<sup>2</sup> was succeeded by

3. RICHARD DE ELY, or FITZ-NEAL, Son of Bishop *Nigellus*;<sup>3</sup> educated in the Monastery of *Ely*; Treasurer to King Henry II; and Author of the famous *Dialogue of the Exchequer*, commonly ascribed to *Gervase of Tilbury*.<sup>4</sup> He was also one of the King's Itinerant Justices, in the reign of K. Henry II; and Canon of St. Paul's, London; became Dean of *Lincoln* in 1184; and was promoted to the See of *London*, in 1189, being consecrated Bishop thereof on Dec. 31, that year: in which station, having continued about nine years, he died on September 10, 1198; and was buried in his Cathedral Church of St. Paul; to which he had been a great Benefactor; particularly in the New building, at the East-end thereof.

4. RICHARD BARRE, Chaplain to King Henry II, was sent on several embassies abroad, during that King's reign; particularly in 1169, with a threatening message to the Pope, requiring him, in the King's Name, to absolve all those persons who had been excommunicated by Archbishop *Becket*:<sup>5</sup> he was afterwards made Chancellor or Keeper of the Seal, to the young King Henry; on whose Rebellion against his Father, in 1173, he continued in his loyalty to his old Master, and came and delivered up to him the Seal. In 1188, being then Archdeacon of *Lisieux* in *Normandy*, he was sent by the King, Ambassador to the Emperors of *Rome* and *Constantinople*, and to *Belz* King of *Hungary*, to desire a safe conduct for the King's Army through their territories, to the Holy Land;<sup>6</sup> and returned with a favourable Answer from those Princes: and the year after became Archdeacon of *Ely*. In the 9th and 10th years of King *Richard I*, he was one of the Justiciars of the King's Court.<sup>7</sup> He was a Person of considerable note for his learning in those times; and wrote a *Compendium of the Old and New Testament*, which he dedicated to his Patron Bishop

Long-

<sup>1</sup> MS. Ep̃ Elien. A. fo. 86.    <sup>2</sup> William de Laventon, Archdeacon of Ely, occurs as Witness in several Charters of Bp. Nigellus, with Richard Fitz-Neal, Treasurer to K. Hen. II; which office he obtained about the year 1159. MS. Regist. Ep̃ M. fo. 155, 156.    <sup>3</sup> Richard had a Dispensation from Pope Alexander 3, to hold any Ecclesiastical Dignity; notwithstanding his not being born of a lawful Matrimony. Radulf de Diceto Ymag. Hist. col. 651.    <sup>4</sup> See the Epistolary Dissertation, at the end of Madox's Hist. of the Exchequer.    <sup>5</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. i. pag. 29.    <sup>6</sup> Radulf. de Diceto, Ymag. Hist. col. 519, 636.    <sup>7</sup> Madox Hist. Exchequer, p. 78, — et Firma Burgi, p. 124.

*Longchamp*, and is still remaining among the *Harleian MSS.*<sup>1</sup> He outlived his Patron abovementioned, and his Name occurs frequently as a Witness in the Charters of Bp. *Euslacc*; but when he died I do not find.

5. STEPHEN RIDEL, who was Nephew of Bishop *Ridel*, is said by Dr. *Willis*<sup>2</sup> to have held this Dignity in 1210, and to have resigned it in 1214. He was Chancellor to *John* Earl of *Moriton*, afterwards King *John*; and was possessed of several Ecclesiastical Benefices in this Diocese, of which he was deprived by Bishop *Longchamp*;<sup>3</sup> but probably restored to them again; as he afterwards occurs as Witness, with *Richard Barre* Archdeacon of *Ely*, in several Charters of Bishop *Euslacc*.

6. ADAM DE TILNEY, or LINLIE, as he is called by *Matthew Paris*,<sup>4</sup> was Counsellor and Advocate to *John* Abbot of St. *Alban's*, about the year 1213, and a Civilian of some eminence; which occasioned his being taken notice of by *Stephen Langton* Archbishop of *Canterbury*, who on his first coming into *England*, invited him, among other learned Men, into his Service, with hopes of preferment; and probably through his interest and recommendation it was, that he obtained this Dignity in 1214.<sup>5</sup> He died Nov. 6, 1219;<sup>6</sup> and was succeeded by

7. GILES, who is said to be possessed of it, in 1222.<sup>7</sup> As this Dignity became vacant in 1219, when the King was applying to the Pope, to provide a Bishop for this See, in the room of *Robert of York*;<sup>8</sup> it is probable that *Giles* then obtained this Dignity by the Pope's authority, especially as he was a foreigner. In 1233, he styles himself Subdeacon, and Chaplain of our Lord the Pope, and Archdeacon of *Ely*; in an Instrument whereby he grants the Administration of his Archdeaconry to *Hugh* Bishop and *Ralph* Prior of *Ely*:<sup>9</sup> for which they were to pay him 90 Marks yearly, besides 100s. Peter-pence due to the Pope.

8. ROBERT DE LEICESTER occurs Archdeacon here in 1238;<sup>10</sup> and afterwards, in several Charters of Bishop *Norwold*, most of them without Dates; but in one of them dated 1241, and in another dated 1245.<sup>11</sup>

9. NICHOLAS DE ELY, succeeded to this Dignity in Bishop *Norwold's* time, and is said to have possessed it in 1249:<sup>12</sup> He was Rector of *Elm* in the *Isle of Ely*, in 1254: became Keeper of the Great Seal, Oct. 18, 1260;<sup>13</sup> but resigned it the following year: was also Prebendary of *Wildland* in St. *Paul's, London*; and Treasurer of *England*, in 1262; the next year on Sept. 18, he was again constituted Keeper of the Great Seal, and held it whilst the King was abroad.<sup>14</sup>—He was promoted to the See of *Worcester*, and consecrated Bishop thereof Sept. 19, 1266; and the next year trans-

<sup>1</sup> In the British Musæum, N<sup>o</sup>. 3255.—It is a large fair MS. on parchment, containing 234 leaves in folio: After the Preface it thus begins, "Incipit Compendium Ricardi Barre Eliensis Archidiaconi de Veteri et Novo Testamento."—and ends thus, "Explicit Liber Magistri Ricardi Barre Eliensis Archidiaconi, qui dicitur Compendium Veteris et Novi Testamenti." which I the rather take notice of, as he is omitted by the learned Dr. Cave in his *Historia Literaria* of that Age.  
<sup>2</sup> Willis's Surv. of Ely Cath. p. 372.   <sup>3</sup> Angl. Sacr. vol. ii. p. 404.   <sup>4</sup> Vitæ Abbatum S. Albani. pag. 1044.   <sup>5</sup> Adam occurs Archdeacon in a Charter of Robert Elect of Ely. MS. Regist. Ep<sup>i</sup> Elien. M. fo. 167.   <sup>6</sup> Le Neve's Fast. p. 73.   <sup>7</sup> Willis, ut supra.   <sup>8</sup> See pag. 145.   <sup>9</sup> Cotton Library. Tiberius. B. 2. fo. 352.   <sup>10</sup> Le Neve, ut supra.   <sup>11</sup> Regist. Ep<sup>i</sup> Elien. M. fo. 168, 384.  
<sup>12</sup> Le Neve, ut supra.   <sup>13</sup> Madox, Hist. of the Exchequer, p. 48.   <sup>14</sup> Rymer, Fœd. vol. i. p. 775.



translated to *Winchester*; where he died on Feb. 12, 1279-80, and was buried at *Waverley-Abby* in *Surrey*; but his heart was deposited at *Winchester*. On his promotion to *Worcester*,

10. JOHN BALSHAM succeeded to this Dignity; as appears by his Mandate, relating to some Tithes due to the Sacrist in *Downham*, dated at *Ditton*, Aug. 18, 1267.<sup>1</sup> After him,

11. RALPH WALPOLE, D.D. Rector of *Somersham* in *Huntingdonshire*, was Archdeacon here in 1271. He was promoted to the See of *Norwich* in 1288; and July 15, 1289, translated to this See of *Ely*.<sup>2</sup>

12. JOHN OSEVILLE, a Nephew or near Relation of Bishop *Kirkeby*, succeeded to this Archdeaconry about the year 1289; he held it also in 1291:<sup>3</sup> and after him,

13. RALPH DE FODRINGAY was Archdeacon in 1292: he was also Prebendary of *Langford Manor*, in the Church of *Lincoln*, and died in 1316.<sup>4</sup>

14. WILLIAM, a Cardinal Priest, by the Title of *Sti Ciriaci in Tirmis*, residing at *Avignon*, succeeded to this Dignity, probably in 1316. He was Archdeacon here in 1324; as appears by the King's Letter to the Pope,<sup>5</sup> complaining of the Cardinal's Conservator, for citing the Bishop's Commissaries out of the Kingdom, to appear before him at *Avignon*, to the manifest detriment of his Subjects, and their great vexation: he probably held this Archdeaconry till 1335; when *Richard de Byntworth*, (afterwards Bishop of *London*,) was admitted to it; but the same year gave up his pretensions, to

15. JOHN DE OFFORD, Brother of the Earl of *Suffolk*, Chaplain to the King, and Prebendary of *St. Paul's, London*. He was frequently employed by the King in foreign embassies;<sup>6</sup> and had considerable preferments in the Church; was Prebendary of *York, Hereford*, and *Lincoln*; of which last he was made Dean in 1344: he was likewise Keeper of the King's Privy Seal; and July 30, 1345, was constituted Lord Chancellor of *England*:<sup>7</sup> and at length, at the King's request, was by a Bull of Pope *Clement VI*, dated at *Avignon* Sept. 24, 1348, promoted to the See of *Canterbury*; but before he was consecrated, he died at *Tottenhall*, May 20, 1349, in the time of the great Plague; and was privately buried in *Canterbury Cathedral*. On his advancement to the Deanery of *Lincoln* in 1344,<sup>8</sup> he was succeeded in this Archdeaconry by

16. GAILLARD DE MOTA, a Cardinal Deacon of the Church of *Rome*, by the Title of *S. Lucie in Silice*; who was likewise Archdeacon of *Oxford*, Precentor of *Chichester*, and Prebendary of *Milton* in the Church of *Lincoln*: he died,<sup>9</sup> in the beginning of the year 1357; and was succeeded by

17. JAMES DE BEAUFORT, Archdeacon of *London*, and Prebendary of *St. Stephen's, Westminster*; who was presented by the King to this Archdeaconry, Feb. 4, 1356-7. His Successor was

18. ANDROYNUS,

<sup>1</sup> MS. vet. Chartular. penes Decan. et Capit. fo. 54. <sup>2</sup> See pag. 154. <sup>3</sup> Le Neve, Fasti, p. 73. <sup>4</sup> Willis's Cath. Lincoln. p. 199. <sup>5</sup> Rym. Fœd. v. iv. p. 25. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. vol. 5. p. 56, 92, 93, 95, 176, 266, &c. <sup>7</sup> Ibid. pag. 474. <sup>8</sup> *John de Tyd* who is said, by Dr. Willis, to have succeeded as Archdeacon, was only Official. <sup>9</sup> *Gilbert de Bruera*, and *Bernard de Cau'afon*, are said to have held this Dignity; the former in 1351, and the latter in 1353: [Le Neve's Fasti. p. 73.]—however it is certain, that the Cardinal was in possession both those, and the three following years. Regist. L'Isle, fo. 76, 79, 80, 81, 82.

18. ANDROYNUS, a Cardinal of the Church of *Rome*, Abbot of *Cluni*: he came into *England* several times, in quality of Nuncio from Pope *Innocent VI*;<sup>1</sup> and was much esteemed by the King, on whose recommendation<sup>2</sup> the Pope created him a Cardinal in 1361; and the King presented him to this Archdeaconry in 1363.

19. EDWARD BURNELL, Prebendary of *Cherminster* and *Beer*, in the Church of *Salisbury*, occurs Archdeacon here in 1376; and had then a contest with the Bishop in the Court of *Canterbury*, about spiritual and ecclesiastical jurisdiction within this Diocese.<sup>3</sup> However, the Archdeacon submitted, and took the oath of canonical obedience to the Bishop at *Downham*, June 28, 1397,<sup>4</sup> and in March following resigned his Archdeaconry, in exchange for the Rectory of *Cottenham* in this Diocese,<sup>5</sup> with

20. JOHN CRYSTCHIRCH, who was accordingly inducted, Mar. 10, 1379-80, by the Bishop's Chancellor.

21. THOMAS PATTESLE was collated, on the death of *John Crystchirch*, May 20, 1387; and resigned it the week following in exchange for *Cottenham*,<sup>6</sup> with

22. THOMAS DE DALBY, Prebendary of *Salisbury*, and of *Lincoln*, and sometime Rector of *Barking* in *Suffolk*, of *Strettham* near *Ely*, and of *Leigh* in *Staffordshire*; which last he exchanged in 1386, for *Cottenham*; and this again for the Archdeaconry of *Ely*; was collated May 28, 1387; but resigned it in 1388, on being presented by the King to the Archdeaconry of *Richmond*, in which he was installed Sept. 23, 1388.<sup>7</sup>

23. THOMAS FERIBY, Prebendary of *Absthorpe* in the Church of *York*, was admitted to this Dignity Oct. 5, 1388; and afterwards exchanged it, in 1394, for the Rectory of *Fordingbridge* in the Diocese of *Winchester*, with

24. RICHARD CLIFFORD, whose Mandate for induction, is dated Sept. 2, 1394. He had considerable Preferments in the Church before this time; was Prebendary of *St. Paul's, London*, also of *Lincoln, Salisbury, York*, and *St. Stephen's, Westminster*: he exchanged this Archdeaconry and his Prebend of *Salisbury*, in March 1396-7, with *Adam Mottrum*, for the Archdeaconry of *Canterbury*; and on the 28th of that month, was installed Dean of *York*. He was also Keeper of the Privy Seal to King *Richard II*; and one of the Executors of that King's Will:<sup>8</sup> and in 1401, was nominated by the Pope to the See of *Bath and Wells*; but the King not giving his consent, he was promoted the same year to the Bishoprick of *Worcester*; and thence translated to *London*, Oct. 13, 1407; where dying Aug. 20, 1421, he was buried in *St. Paul's Church*.

25. ADAM DE MOTTRUM, having resigned his Archdeaconry of *Canterbury*, as before mentioned, in exchange for the Prebend of *Iwearn*<sup>9</sup> in the Church of *Salisbury*, and this Archdeaconry; was admitted to this latter about the end of March, 1397. He quitted it the same year, as also the Prebend of *Fenton* in the Church of *York*, and

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<sup>1</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. v. p. 814. and vol. vi. p. 206, 365. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. vol. vi. p. 303, 328. <sup>3</sup> Regist. Arundel. fo. 22. <sup>4</sup> Ibid. fo. 30. <sup>5</sup> In his Will, proved May 4, he ordered his Body to be buried in the Church of the Friars Minor, London; to whom he bequeathed 40*l.* — to the Poor of *Cottenham* 20*l.* to the Poor of *Cherminster* and *Beer* 20*l.* — Ibid. fo. 56. <sup>6</sup> Thomas Pattesle was collated in 1396 to the Rectory of Great Shelford near Cambridge; of which he died Rector, Oct. 11, 1411; and was there buried. <sup>7</sup> His Will was proved May 20, 1400; in which he ordered his Body to be buried, about the middle of the Nave, in *York Cathedral*. Le Neve Fast. p. 325. <sup>8</sup> Rymer Fœd. vol. viii. p. 75. <sup>9</sup> Regist. Fordham. fo. 58.



a Prebend at *Exeter*, in exchange for the Precentorship of *Salisbury*, and the Prebend of *Husbourn* and *Burbage* in the same Church, with

26. JOHN WELBORN, LL.D. who was admitted to this Dignity Oct. 13, 1397. In his time the Dispute concerning jurisdiction, long-time subsisting between the Bishops of *Ely* and their Archdeacons, was finally determined, on an Appeal and Reference, by Archbishop *Arundell*, Nov. 19, 1401:<sup>1</sup> and at the same time *Haddenham* was appropriated to the Archdeaconry, in recompense for that part of jurisdiction, from which the Archdeacon receded. The time of his death does not appear; but he was living Jan. 8, 1408-9,<sup>2</sup> being then returned as summoned to Convocation; and probably died soon after; for his Successor

27. JOHN METFIELD, LL.D. a Kinsman of Bishop *Fordham*, and his Chancellor, Rector also of *Leverington* and *Tyrington*, and sometime of *Pulham* in *Norfolk*; occurs Archdeacon here 1409;<sup>3</sup> and likewise May 27, 1411:<sup>4</sup> the latter end of which year, he is said to have died, and been buried at *Ely*. His Successor was

28. ROBERT WETHERINGSETE, Rector of *Northwold* in *Norfolk*, and of *Wetheringsete* in *Suffolk*; but the time of his admision does not appear. He had also a Prebend in the Church of *Lincoln*; and dying Mar. 2, 1444-5, was buried in *Wilberton* Church, where is still to be seen a Grey Marble, with his Effigies in Brass.

29. JOHN STOKES, LL.D. Chancellor of this Diocese, and Rector of *Stowe cum Qui* in *Cambridgeshire*, was collated by Bishop *Bourchier*, to this Archdeaconry, Mar. 15, 1444-5. He had also the Prebend of *Inckbarrow* in the Church of *Hereford*; and was made Precentor of *Salisbury* July 15, 1457: and dying about Christmas 1466, was succeeded in this Dignity, by

30. RICHARD BOLE, LL.B. Rector of *Balsam*, the Bishop's Official, and Prebendary of the Collegiate Church of *Hastings* in *Suffex*; who was collated Feb. 6, 1466-7, and about the same time resigned *Balsam*, and was presented to the Rectory of *East-Derham* in *Norfolk*. He died in September 1477, and was buried in the Chancel of *Wilberton* Church, near his Predecessor *Wetheringsete*, under a Marble, having thereon his Effigies in Brass, and an imperfect Inscription.

31. RICHARD ROBINSON, LL.D. Rector of *Barking* in *Suffolk*, Official of this Diocese, was collated by Bp. *Gray* to the Rectory of *Doddington*, Jan. 1, 1468-9; to the Chapel or Hospital of *St. Mary Magdalene* at *Steresbridge* near *Cambridge*, May 14, 1477; and to this Archdeaconry Sept. 30, following: on which he resigned his other preferments; but held his Archdeaconry till his death, in 1479; when he was succeeded by

32. THOMAS MORTON, Brother of Bp. *Morton*, who collated him to this Dignity in 1479: he had also the Prebend of *Consumptum per Mare* in *St. Paul's, London*; but what other preferment, I know not. He died in 1496; and his Successor here, was

33. THOMAS ALCOCK, LL.D. a Kinsman of Bp. *Alcock*, who presented him to *Brandon* in *Suffolk*, Jan. 12, 1490-1; the year after, to *Bluntisham* in *Huntingdonshire*: and Aug. 17, 1496, collated him to this Archdeaconry; on which, he resigned *Brandon*: he became afterwards Chancellor to Bishop *West*; and was by him collated to the Mastership of *Jesus College, Cambridge*: but this preferment he soon quitted, being ad-

<sup>1</sup> Regist. *Fordham*, fo. 220. <sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* fo. 171. <sup>3</sup> MS. Ep<sup>i</sup> *Elien. B.* fo. 129. <sup>4</sup> Regist. *Fordam.* fo. 208.

## CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ELY. (ARCHDEACONS.) 277

admitted in Feb. 1515-16; and resigned it July 14, following; as he did also this Archdeaconry Oct. 27, 1527, on having an annual Pension of 50*l.* assigned him out of it, for life.<sup>1</sup> The time of his death does not appear; but he was probably buried in *Wilberton* Chancel, to which Church he seems to have been a considerable Benefactor.<sup>2</sup>

34. NICHOLAS HAWKINS, LL.D. Nephew of Bishop *West*, then abroad in foreign parts, was collated to this Archdeaconry, and admitted by proxy Nov. 9, 1527. He was Rector of *Doddington* in the *Isle of Ely*, and of *Snailwell* in *Cambridgeshire*; the former of which he resigned, on being made Archdeacon. At the time of Bishop *West*'s death, in April 1553, he was employed on an embassy abroad; and was designed by the King to have succeeded him in the See of *Ely*: but died before Consecration. Dr. *Willis* informs us,<sup>3</sup> his Will was dated Dec. 29, 1533; but not proved till Oct. 20, 1535; in which he appoints to be buried in *Civitate Barbatrensi*, where he died.

35. THOMAS THIRLBY, LL.D. Chaplain to King *Henry VIII*, was presented by him to this Archdeaconry in 1534; and soon after made Dean of the Chapel Royal; consecrated Bishop of the new-erected See of *Westminster*, in 1540; thence translated to *Norwich* in 1550; and at length to *Ely*.<sup>4</sup>

36. RICHARD COX, D.D. Chaplain to the King, and Tutor to Prince *Edward*, afterwards King *Edward VI*, was admitted to this Dignity, on the King's presentation Mar. 25, 1541; and in September following, was nominated first Prebendary of this Church. He had other considerable preferments under King *Henry VIII*, and *Edward VI*; being very zealous in the Reformation of Religion. On which account he was obliged to leave the Kingdom, when Queen *Mary* came to the Crown: but returned on Queen *Elizabeth*'s accession; and was made Bishop of *Ely*.<sup>5</sup>

37. HENRY COLE, LL.D. was educated at *Winchester* School, and became Fellow of *New College* in *Oxford*, about the year 1530: afterwards travelled into *Italy*, and studied at *Padua*; was created LL.D. at *Oxford* in 1540; in which year he resigned his Fellowship; being then settled at *London*, an Advocate in the Court of Arches, and Rector of *Chelmsford* in *Essex*. In 1542, he was elected Warden of *New College*; was Prebendary also of *St. Paul's*, and of *Salisbury*; and in 1545, became Rector of *Newton Longville*, *Bucks*. He sometime complied with the Reformation under K. *Edward VI*; but towards the end of that reign was disgusted, or changed his mind; and resigned his Wardenship, and *Newton Longville*, as he had sometime before his Living of *Chelmsford*. On Queen *Mary*'s accession he proved a zealous Papist; was made Archdeacon of *Ely*; (in the room of Dr. *Cox*, who had fled beyond Sea;) and Provost of *Eton*, in 1554. He was one of those who were appointed to dispute publickly at *Oxford*, with Archbishop *Cranmer*, and Bishops *Ridley* and *Latimer*; and preach-

<sup>1</sup> Regist. *West*, fo. 39, 40, 41. — His resignation was made before a Publick Notary, "in quadam Capella infra Rectoriam sive Mansionem de Wilberton, Elien. Dicec. &c." <sup>2</sup> In the Chapel of Wilberton Church, are two Gothic Niches or Tabernacles, one on each side of the East Window, in which were formerly placed Statues; but now removed: under that on the South-side is inscribed in gold letters, "Master THOMAS ALCOCK;" the other has no Inscription that appears; but under it is a plain Altar-Tomb of grey Marble robbed of its Brass; and over the Niches, and in many other places of the roof, are carved and painted the Arms of Alcock, viz. *Ar.* a Fess inter 3 Cocks heads erased, *Sa.* <sup>3</sup> Surv. of *Ely Cath.* p. 374. <sup>4</sup> See pag. 191. <sup>5</sup> See pag. 192.



preached the Sermon immediately before the burning of Archbishop *Cranmer*, Mar. 21, 1555-6: and in December following, was made Dean of *St. Paul's, London*; about which time he quitted this Archdeaconry. In the first year of Queen *Elizabeth*, he was again appointed, with others on the side of the Papists, to dispute publicly, before the Privy Council, with the Protestant Divines; and afterwards, refusing to comply with the Reformation of Religion, was fined and imprisoned in the Fleet: and died in confinement in December 1579.

38. JOHN BOXALL, D.D. Prebendary of this Church, was made Archdeacon, on Dr. *Cole's* resignation: but deprived of both, and his other preferments, in the first of Queen *Elizabeth*.<sup>1</sup> After which he was committed to the free custody of Archbishop *Parker* at *Lambeth Palace*, with Bishops *Thirlby* and *Tunstall*; but soon after falling sick of a Fever, was permitted to go to the House of a near Relation at *London*; where he lived quietly in retirement several years after; and died in 1570.

39. ROBERT WISDOM, B.D. Rector of *Settrington* in *Yorkshire*, obtained the Queen's presentation to this Archdeaconry, on Dr. *Boxall's* deprivation, and was instituted Feb. 27, 1559-60. He is returned in Bishop *Cox's Certificatorium*<sup>2</sup> to the Archbishop, dated Jan. 28 following, that he was "a Priest, and B.D., and usually resided on his Rectory of *Wilberton*, appropriated to his Archdeaconry; was qualified also for Preaching, and licenced thereto by the Queen's Majesty." His Name is also among the original Subscribers to the xxxix Articles of Religion.<sup>3</sup> He died in September 1568; and Dr. *Willis* supposed, from some ludicrous Verses of Bishop *Corbet*, by him cited,<sup>4</sup> that he was buried at *St. Martin's Church, Oxford*: but it appears from *Wilberton* Parish-Register, that he was there buried, Sept. 20, 1568.

40. JOHN PARKER, M.A. Prebendary of this Church,<sup>5</sup> was collated to this Dignity Oct. 21, 1568: on whose decease in 1592,

41. JOHN PALMER, M.A. (afterwards D.D.) Chaplain to the Queen, was by her Majesty presented to this Archdeaconry, June 5, 1592; and at the same time to a Prebend in this Church, both vacant by the death of Mr. *John Parker*.<sup>6</sup> He resigned this Dignity in 1600, when

42. ROBERT TINLEY, D.D. a Kinsman of Bishop *Heton*, and Fellow of *Magdalen College* in *Oxford*, was collated to it July 17, 1600. He had been Proctor of that University in 1595, and was then esteemed a Man of parts, and an excellent Preacher: was instituted to the Rectory of *Duxford St. Peter's* in *Cambridgeshire*, Mar. 27, 1601; and collated to the Third Prebendal Stall in this Church, Feb. 4, 1602-3; and likewise presented to the Rectory of *Glemsford* in *Suffolk*, the same month; which Living he resigned in Feb. 1607-8, being then collated to the Vicarage of *Witham* in *Essex*; and in August following, to the Prebend of *Kentish-Town*, in *St. Paul's, London*. He died in Nov. 1616; is supposed to be buried at *Witham*; and was succeeded in this Dignity, by

43. DANIEL WIGMORE, B.D. He was M.A., and of *Queen's College, Cambridge*, when he was ordained Deacon and Priest the same day, by Bishop *Heton* at *Downham*, Dec. 28, 1602; became Minor Canon of this Church in 1605; Head-Master of *Ely-School*

<sup>1</sup> See pag. 241.    <sup>2</sup> MS. Bene't Coll. Library. Miscellanea, V.    <sup>3</sup> Ibid. MS. Miscell. iii.    <sup>4</sup> Surv. of Ely Cath. p. 374.    <sup>5</sup> See pag. 241.    <sup>6</sup> Ibid.

*School* in 1609; and Divinity Lecturer in this Cathedral, 1611. Bishop *Andrews* preferred him to the First Prebendal Stall in this Church, Nov. 26, 1614; and further collated him to this Archdeaconry about March 1616-17. He was sometime Rector of *Northwold* in *Norfolk*; and of *Snailwell* in *Cambridgeshire*: and after the dissolution of Cathedrals, in the time of the Rebellion, seems to have retired to his Estate at *Little Shelford* near *Cambridge*; where he died in 1646, and was there buried.

44. EDMUND MAPLETOFT, M.A. Rector of *Downham*, and of *Hardwick* in this Diocese, was collated by Bp. *Wren*, then confined in the *Tower of London*, to this Archdeaconry Feb. 4, 1646-7; about a year after to the Rectory of *Willingham* in *Cambridgeshire*; and on Mar. 12, 1651-2, to the First Stall in this Church: but dying in December following, was never installed or put in possession, either of his Archdeaconry, or Prebend.

45. BERNARD HALE, D.D. Rector of *Fen-Ditton* in *Cambridgeshire*, was collated to this Dignity July 2, 1660; and the day after to a Prebendal Stall in this Church: of whom see more among the Prebendaries.<sup>1</sup>

46. THOMAS WREN, LL.D. Prebendary of this Church, was collated, by his Father Bishop *Wren*, to this Archdeaconry, on the death of Dr. *Hale*, Apr. 8, 1663: concerning him likewise, see among the Prebendaries of the Fifth Stall.<sup>2</sup> On his decease, in October 1679, he was succeeded by

47. BARNABAS OLEY, M.A. President of *Clare Hall* in *Cambridge*, and Vicar of *Great Grandsden* in *Huntingdonshire*. He was born at *Thorp* near *Wakefield* in *Yorkshire*; (of which place his Father was Vicar;) and was Proctor of the University in 1635. On the breaking out of the Rebellion, he was very active in collecting the University Plate; and was intrusted in conveying it to the King at *Nottingham* in August 1642: but for this, and other acts of loyalty, was turned out of his Fellowship, by the Earl of *Manchester*, Apr. 8, 1644; and forced to quit his Vicarage. After having suffered much, during the Usurpation; he was in 1660, restored both to his Fellowship and Vicarage; and Sept. 4, that year, installed Prebendary of *Worcester*: and Bishop *Gunning*, (to whom he had formerly been Tutor,) collated him to this Archdeaconry, Nov. 8, into which he was inducted, by Proxy, Nov. 17, 1679: this Dignity, however, after a little more than a year's possession, he voluntarily resigned; not thinking himself, in his great humility, sufficient to discharge the Duty of it. He was a learned Man;<sup>3</sup> and no less eminent for his piety and charities: was an especial Benefactor to *Clare Hall*, when it was rebuilding, as well by his own benefaction, as by his assiduous and effectual application to others, and constant inspection of the Work. He also gave 100*l.* to *King's College*; 100*l.* to *St. Paul's, London*; built a fair Vicarage-house and a School at *Grandsden*; left part of his Estate, to augment poor Vicarages; and part of his Books, to the succeeding Vicars of *North-Grimston* in *Yorkshire*. He died Feb. 20, 1685-6.

48. WILLIAM SAYWELL, D.D. Master of *Jesus College* in *Cambridge*, and one of the Prebendaries of this Church,<sup>4</sup> was collated to this Dignity, vacant by Mr. *Oley's* resignation, Jan. 22, 1680-1. He died June 9, 1701; and was succeeded by

49. RICHARD

<sup>1</sup> Page 245. <sup>2</sup> Page 255. <sup>3</sup> He published Dr. Jackson's Works, and Mr. Herbert's Country Parson; to each of which he prefixed a Preface. <sup>4</sup> See pag. 251.



49. RICHARD BENTLEY, D.D. This eminent Critick and Divine, born at *Wakefield* in *Yorkshire* in 1662, was of *St. John's*, College in *Cambridge*; and was incorporated M.A. at *Oxford*, July 4, 1689: sometime after, became domestick Chaplain to Dr. *Stillingfleet*, Bishop of *Worcester*; and one of the Prebendaries of that Church; and in April 1694, Keeper of the Royal Library at *St. James's*; also Chaplain in ordinary to his Majesty King *William*; by whom he was promoted to the Mastership of *Trinity* College in *Cambridge*; being admitted Master there, Feb. 1,  $\frac{1699}{1700}$ ; in which year he resigned his Prebend of *Worcester*: and June 12, 1701, was collated to this Archdeaconry: and in the year 1716 or 1717, was elected *Regius* Professor of Divinity in the University of *Cambridge*. He died on July 14, 1742, and was buried in *Trinity* College Chapel, with only this short Inscription on a black Marble over him, "H. S. E. RICHARDUS BENTLEY S.T.P.R. obiit 14 Jul. 1742, Ætatis 80."

50. ROBERT EYTON, D.D. was born at *Shrewsbury* 1681; admitted into *St. John's* College, *Cambridge*; there proceeded to his Degrees: he entered into Holy Orders 1705; became Rector of *Wem* in the County of *Salop*; and was collated by his Brother-in-Law Bishop *Butts* to this Archdeaconry Sept. 16, 1742. He died in 1751, about Michaelmas; and was succeeded by

51. CHARLES PLUMPTRE, B.D. who was collated to this Dignity, Dec. 20, 1751.—He was born at *Nottingham*; (which Town his Father *John Plumptre*, Esq; represented in several Parliaments;) educated at *Hackney* School; and thence admitted of *Clare Hall*, *Cambridge*, in 1730: having taken his Degree of B.A. he afterwards removed to *Queen's* College, where he was elected Fellow; and proceeded to his Degree of M.A. in 1737, and of B.D. in 1746. The late Earl of *Hardwicke* first presented him to the Rectory of *Wimpey* in *Cambridgeshire* in 1745; soon after, he had the Living of *Whaddon* in the same County, on the presentation of the Dean and Canons of *Windsor*; about the year 1746, Lord *Hardwicke* also promoted him to a Prebend in the Church of *Norwich*; which he resigned in 1751, on being collated to this Archdeaconry: in 1752, he was created D.D. and was presented to the Rectory of *St. Mary Woolnoth* in *London*, then in the gift of his Patron, as Lord Chancellor; at which time he resigned both his *Cambridgeshire* Livings; has since been appointed Afternoon Preacher at *St. James's* Church, *Westminster*; and is the present possessor of this Dignity, Aug. 1, 1770.

*The Precentor and Divinity Lecturer, Nov. 1. 1770.*

THOMAS WATKINS, M.A. on the Death of HENRY GUNNING, M.A. Nov. 25, 1764.

*The Minor Canons,*

1. THOMAS WATKINS, M.A. on the Resignation of the Rev. THOMAS MANLOVE, made Minor Canon of *Norwich*, June 14, 1723.
2. JEFFRY BENTHAM, M.A. on the Resignation of THOMAS TOOKIE, M.A. prefer'd to the Vicarage of *Meldreth*, May 8, 1744.
3. WILLIAM IRWIN, M.A. on the Death of HENRY GUNNING, M.A. Nov. 25, 1764.
4. THOMAS ATCHERLEY, M.A. on the Death of THO<sup>s</sup> ELLIS, M.A. Nov. 25, 1764.
5. THOMAS ELLIS, M.A. on the Resignation of JAMES BENTHAM, M.A. prefer'd to the Rectory of *Feltwell St. Nicholas, Norfolk*, July 5, 1768.

*Epistolar and Sacrist,*

JEFFRY BENTHAM, M.A. on the Resignat<sup>n</sup> of JAMES BENTHAM, M.A. July 5, 1768.

*Head-Master of the Grammar-School,*

WILLIAM IRWIN, M.A. on the Resignat<sup>n</sup> of HENRY GUNNING, M.A. Oct. 10, 1763.

*Under-Master of the same,*

THOMAS ATCHERLEY, M.A. (vacant by the Death of THO<sup>s</sup> ELLIS, M.A.) Jul. 6, 1767.

*Steward of the Dean and Chapter's Courts,*

CHARLES GREENE Esq; in part, on CHARLES CLARKE Esq; being made one of the Barons of the Exchequer, June 14, 1743: and the whole, on the Death of THOMAS LUCK, Esq; June 14, 1752.

*Auditor,*

DEERING JONES, M.A. on the Death of JOSIAH CURREN, M.A. June 14, 1748.

*Registrar,*

THOMAS WATKINS, M.A. on the Death of SAMUEL BENTHAM, M.A. June 1733.

*Organist and Master of the Choristers,*

Mr. DAVID WOOD, on the Death of Mr. JOHN ELBON, June 14, 1768.

*The Lay-Clarks or Singing-Men,*

1. *Wenham Power*, Half-place, June 14, 1731. — Whole, Nov. 25, 1732.
2. *Francis Winter*, ——— June 14, 1736. ——— Nov. 25, 1743.
3. *John Pigot*, ——— June 14, 1754. ——— June 14, 1755.
4. *William Marshall*, ——— June 14, 1758. ——— Apr. 5, 1759.
6. *Worth Marshall*, ——— ——— June 14, 1763.
7. *William Winter*, ——— Nov. 25, 1766. ——— Nov. 25, 1767.
8. [Vacant] late *Joseph Marshall*.



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A GENERAL DESCRIPTION  
OF THE  
CATHEDRAL and other BUILDINGS.

THERE is not perhaps, any one Fabrick in this Kingdom that exhibits a larger, more elegant, or a more magnificent display of what is called *Gothic* Architecture, than the Cathedral of *Ely*, or that will better illustrate the History of this kind of Building in *England*.—These things, if set in their proper light, might afford matter sufficient for a whole Volume: and it would be a subject well worth the attention of an Antiquarian, to investigate the Origin and Progress of Architecture in our Country; to note the various Modes of Building in different Ages; to observe the transitions from one Style to another; and the gradual advances towards Perfection, from examples that are still remaining. Something to this effect has been already attempted, in the Introduction to this History;<sup>1</sup> much more might be added from the Remains of the Old Conventual Church here, and of this Cathedral; perhaps more than will easily be found together in any other part of the Kingdom. Whether God will give me life to digest those Memorials, which, in the prosecution of this History, I have collected, is very uncertain. At present, I can only gratify the Reader with a plain Narrative respecting the present Fabrick, its several Parts, their Dimensions, and the different Times at which they were erected.

THE principal Entrance into this Church is at the West End, by a handsome Vestibule, formerly called the Galilee, leading under a grand and lofty Tower, and so onward through the Nave, commonly used for a Sermon-place. The Front of the Vestibule is impaired in its beauty, by the insertion of Two small Stone Door-ways of a very uncouth form, instead of the elegant open Entrance, in which they are placed: this Vestibule was built by Bishop *Eustachius*, about the year 1200: the exterior ground hath been raised considerably; and this also contributes to hurt the appearance of the Fabrick.

THE great Tower was anciently flanked on the Northside, with a Building of the same kind as that now standing on the South; forming in the whole Western Front an august appearance: but the Northern part falling, or being taken down, (at what time is uncertain,) a design was formed to erect another Building instead thereof,  
upon

<sup>1</sup> Page 15, 16, &c.

upon a more contracted Plan, and different Design; but it was never carried higher than about 12 or 14 Feet. The Building now standing on the South, however elegant, and agreeable to the eye, has so much original weakness, owing to the too frequent and disproportionate Intercolumniations, and the Parts not being sufficiently tied together; that it hath long, (perhaps soon after the adjoining Tower was raised to its present height,) carried in the Inside a ruinous aspect: It was built at the same time with the Tower, after the year 1174, which was carried up only to the first Battlements, and not finished when that Bishop died in 1189. The interior view of the Tower is in itself very beautiful, being decorated with small Colonnades running round it in several Stories one above another, and enlightened by twenty-seven Windows: but this beauty is all lost, by stopping up the Windows, and by the insertion of a Belfry-floor, and of several irregular beams, placed there to direct the course of the Bell-ropes.

THE passage through the Nave is very grand, the Arcades are lofty; but the Roof appears to a disadvantage, for want of a proper Ceiling.

As we advance through the Nave, the View gradually opens into a magnificent Octagon rising up with a Dome, and terminated by an elegant and well-illuminated Lantern. <sup>1</sup>

THIS Octagon, if not singular, is unequalled by any thing of the kind. Its construction, though bold, was owing to the prudence of the Architect, to prevent the misfortune which hath arisen in some Churches, and particularly in this, A.D. 1322: For in the middle of this Church, as in all or most other Cathedrals, anciently stood a lofty Stone Tower, supported by four large Pillars, the Foundations of which I have discovered: these by the united pressure of the Arches both of the Nave and Transept, wanting a proper Counterpoise, gave way; the Tower fell down, and demolished the Choir under it; and probably so much weakened the three contiguous Arches Eastward, that they were obliged to be taken down. By this expedient of an Octagonal Form, the Architect *Alan de Walsingham*, one of the Monks, at that time Sacrist, and afterwards Prior of the Convent, in a great measure guarded against future accidents of the same kind: he also embellished the Choir with a most elegant set of Stalls, (now effectually repairing and placing in the New Choir:) but by continuing the Choir in its former situation, the beauty and grandeur of the Octagon were greatly obscured. This inconvenience is now happily removed, by carrying the Choir to the East end of the Church.

THE North and South Transepts are of a Style of building different from the foregoing: they were built in the reigns of *William Rufus* and *Henry I.* and are the oldest parts of the Church. The North-west angle of the North Transept fell down, Mar. 29, 1699, about 10 o'clock in the Evening:—the Rebuilding of which cost

2637 l.

<sup>1</sup> See Plates XLIII, XLIV, XLI.



2637*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.* The Arches here and of the Nave are circular; the Pillars large, but not more so than the weight they sustain, seems to require: they are handsomely diversified, though without affectation of little Ornaments.<sup>1</sup>

THE Nave was in building from about the middle of *Henry Ist's* reign, and appears to have been compleated before the year 1174.

THE space comprehended within the three Arches standing Eastward of the Octagon, is highly embellished; the Vaulting is divided into regular Compartments by various Ribs springing from the Capitals of the Pillars; at the Intersections of which are elegant Foliage and Flowers of curious workmanship: The Arches of the second Arcade, and the Windows above them, are embellished with Tracery-work of such elegance and delicacy as seem scarcely consistent with strength. This part was re-edified at the expense of Bishop *Hotbam*; whose raised Tomb<sup>2</sup> was placed underneath; but suffered much from Fanatical zeal: the remains of it are removed into the North Isle.

THE Cathedral Church in its original Dimensions, extended little further than the beginning of the present Choir, viz. those three Arches beyond the Octagon in a direct line, and then ended in a Circular form; so that the foundations of this circular end are now within the Choir; I discovered them a few years ago; and again very lately traced them out, when the old Pavement was taken up in order to level the ground for the reception of the New Choir. See the form of the original ending represented in Plate XLIX. Fig. 1. Bishop *Northwold* took down this circular end, and lengthened the Church to the Eastward six Arches farther; which space, antiently called the Presbytery, is now occupied by the present Choir, begun to be removed hither, A.D. 1769. Nothing can be conceived more elegant than this part: the Ornaments are rich, but majestically plain and simple; the strength and gracefulness of the whole being equally consulted: It was begun to be built in 1235, and finished before 1252. See Plate XLIII.

THE upper part of the outward Eastern Front (See Plate XLV.) had given way, and hung out of the perpendicular, near two Feet; but was restored to it's first state under the direction of Mr. *Effex*; who also gave the Design for the new Roofing over the whole of the Eastern part of the Church, lately finished, and contrived with great judgment to strengthen the Stone Walls, which give it support. To the same judicious Architect likewise is owing that strength and security which are seen in the whole Wood-work of the Dome and Lantern; which through long inattention were brought into a dangerous condition; the main Supporters being rotted, and the whole threatening ruin by it's own weight: This dangerous work was taken in hand in 1757, and a compleat reparation effected in five years.

As

<sup>1</sup> Plates XLIII, XLIV.    <sup>2</sup> Plate XVIII.

As to the removal of the Choir, into that part of the Church called the Presbytery, it is allowed by the best judges to be one of the most useful and ornamental Improvements that could have been effected; the Design was worthy of that Taste and spirit of Improvement, which so eminently distinguish this Age and Country; and the inducements to it were many: the Presbytery itself made full one third of the Cathedral, but of a far more laboured and finished style of building; and in respect of Elegance, Proportion, and Decorations, may justly be accounted one of the choicest and most perfect remains of Gothic Architecture: This stately and sumptuous part of the Fabrick was first built in order to extend the Church to a more convenient length for the reception of the High Altar, but particularly to make room for the magnificent Shrine of St. *Etheldreda*, and for such-like gainful and superstitious purposes; therefore of course fell into disuse after the Reformation: and was in a manner lost, or an useless incumbrance to the Church: but now, by the introduction of the Choir into it, it is not only become the most useful part of the Church, but contributes in the highest degree to the beauty and magnificence of the Whole; and with regard to real use and importance, by the advantage this part of the Church hath of a most curious and arched Roof of Stone, it hath been found on trial to be better adapted in all respects to the purposes of Reading and Hearing, as well as of the Organ and Voices, for performing the several parts of Divine Service, than the place of the late Choir: And in respect to Beauty and Ornament; whereas by the situation of the late Choir, the Transept or great Cross of the Church, with the Octagon in the centre, was broken and divided into three parts, by the two blank sides of the Choir, and thereby the Arches were intersected, the Pillars in a great measure hid, the Uniformity destroyed, and the general View intercepted;—Now by this Alteration, both the Nave and Transept have acquired their due Dimensions, and the Church hath been cleared of those Inconsistencies, by which the view of it, in its real Harmony and Proportion, had hitherto been obstructed. None of these desirable ends could have been effected without removing the late Choir; and what adds greatly to recommend this Design, now carrying into execution, is, that the spacious Octagon formed in the Centre of the Transept, covered with an elegant Dome and Lantern, and carried up to the height of 142 Feet within, being already laid open, is now seen, as it deserves, in its proper point of view, in the same manner as the Dome of St. *Paul's, London*; so that when the Whole is finished, there is no doubt but this Church will thereby be rendered one of the most elegant and magnificent in the Kingdom. — I must here observe, that on removing the Choir, the Bones of those Seven Saxon Worthies, all of them great Benefactors to the Church of *Ely*, before the Norman Conquest; and mentioned in the former part of this Work, (pag. 85,) to have been immured in the North Wall of the Choir; namely, of *Wulfstan* ABp. of *York*, *Osmond* a Swedish Bishop, *Alwin* Bp. of *Elmham*, *Ælfgar* or *Algar* Bp. of *Elmham*, *Ednoth* Bp. of *Dorchester*, *Athelstan* Bp. of *Elmham*, and of *Britnoth* Duke of *Northumberland*; were found, on taking down that Wall: and the manner of their disposition was exactly conformable to the account there given: the Bones of each being



placed in separate Cells within the Wall, under their several Names and painted Effigies. These are now put into distinct Cases, and will be deposited in some convenient part of the Church, with a suitable Memorial, to preserve their Names to Posterity.

IN the year 1321, that most curious Structure, formerly called St. *Mary's* Chapel, (now used as a Parochial Church for *Trinity* Parish,) was begun to be built. The Architect was *Alan de Walsingham*, the same who displayed his skill in building the Dome. Bishop *Montacute's* liberality greatly assisted the Convent, and enabled them to carry on that Work; though he did not live to see it compleated; for it was not finished till 1349, four years after his death. For quantity and Variety, as well as delicacy of Sculpture, perhaps few single Chapels ever exceeded it: the vaulting is bold, but delicate and requiring great care for its Preservation.<sup>1</sup> The Elegance of this Building could not preserve it from being mangled by the ignorant rage of Fanaticks: and the large remains of its Sculpture are now miserably clogged and obscured by White-wash: this Sculpture, besides a great variety of Flower-work, Foliage, and Ornaments about the Niches, enriched with Statues, seems to have represented in high Relief many parts of Scripture History, and probably, as was the custom of those times, Legendary Stories.

Two other small Chapels at the East-end of the two Side-Isles of the Church, different in kind, but of elegant construction and richly ornamented, cannot fail of giving pleasure to every beholder; namely, The Chapel in which Bishop *Alcock* was intombed, built about 1488:<sup>2</sup> And the Chapel of Bishop *West*, built for the like use about 1530.<sup>3</sup> In this last, the Spectator will admire the remains of excellent Carving in a Style inferior to none of the present Age; and must lament the indiscreet and foolish zeal of those who so miserably defaced it.

SEVERAL Parts of this Church have undergone great changes, since the original building. Besides that great Alteration, which was effected by building the Octagon, Dome, and Lantern; the addition of Six Arches to the length of it, by Bishop *Northwold*; and the rebuilding the three remaining Arches adjoining to the Dome, by Bishop *Hotham*; which have been taken notice of before: The great Western Tower being originally carried up no higher than the first Battlements about 1189;<sup>4</sup> the Octangular Building with the four Turrets were added, about 1380: but some time after, this Tower being apprehended in a dangerous way of spreading asunder, (probably by the additional weight on it,) it was found necessary to brace it together, by a curious and judicious Frame of Timber, cramped with Iron, and key'd into the Stone-work; and likewise to enlarge and case the Pillars underneath; which latter work, I find was begun A.D. 1406.

<sup>1</sup> See Plates XLVII. XLVIII.    <sup>2</sup> See Plate XXI.    <sup>3</sup> See Plate XXIV.    <sup>4</sup> See Plate I, XLII.

THE middle and lower tiers of Windows in the Side-Isles of the Nave and Transept, were originally of the same plain circular kind as now appear in the uppermost tier: a specimen of the Whole middle tier according to its original structure, is still to be seen in the East-side of the Northern Transept.

ON the North-side of the Nave antiently stood a Parochial Church, which, being ruined, was soon after the Reformation entirely pulled down; and St. Mary's Chapel assigned by the Dean and Chapter, in 1566, for the use of Trinity Parish. In 1662, the exterior Wall of the North Isle was new cased.

I need not mention, that the Removal of the Choir necessarily required a removal of several Monuments originally placed against the Pillars; but which are now distributed in the two Side-Isles, and greatly add to their decoration.—

IN the North Isle of the Choir, are the Chapel and Monument of Bishop *Alcock*; the remains of Bishop *Gray's* Monument; the Monuments of Bishop *Fleetwood*, Bishop *Patrick*, Bishop *Hotbam*, Bishop *Kilkenny*, Bishop *Redman*, and Dean *Cæsar*.

IN the South Isle are, the Chapel and Monument of Bishop *West*; the Monuments of Bishop *Greene*, Dr. *Charles Fleetwood*, *Francis Say*, Esq; Bishop *Laney*, *John Lord Tiptoft* Earl of *Worcester*, Bishop *Gunning*, the remains of Bishop *Barnet's* and Bishop *Northwold's* Monuments; the Monuments of Bishop *Butts*, Bishop *Moore*, Bishop *De Luda*, *Robert Stuart* Esq; Sir *Mark Stuart*, *Kingsmill Lucy* Esq; and *Henry Gunning*, M.A.

THE Forms of Contignation in the Roofs, &c. which prevailed in different times, may in some measure be collected from Plates XLIII, XLIV.

*Exterior Dimensions of the Cathedral, taken 1770.*

		Feet.
The whole Length of the Church, from West to East.	— — — — —	535.
The Length of the Transept from North to South.	— — — — —	190.
The Height of the Western Tower with the Spire.	— — — — —	270.
The Height of the Four Stone-Turrets of the Western Tower.	— — — — —	215.
The Height of the Lantern over the Dome.	— — — — —	170.
The Height of the Two Towers on the South Wing of the Western Tower.	— — — — —	120.
The Height of the Four Stone Spires, on the N. and S. ends of the Transept.	— — — — —	120.
The Height of the Eastern Front, to the top of the Cross.	— — — — —	112.
The Height of the Roof over the Nave.	— — — — —	104.

*Interior*



*Interior Dimensions of the same.*

		<i>Feet. Inches.</i>
The whole Length from West to East.	—————	517.
viz. The Galilee or Western Vestibule.	—————	40.
The Western Tower.	—————	48.
The Nave.	—————	203.
Crossing the Octagon.	—————	71. 6.
From the Eastern Side of the Octagon, to the Entrance of the Choir,	—————	53.
Thence to the East-End of the Choir.	—————	101. 6.
		<hr/> 517.
The Length of the Transept from North to South.	—————	178. 6.
The Breadth of the Nave with the Side-Isles.	—————	73. 6.
The Breadth of that part Eastward of the Dome.	—————	76. 6.
The clear Diameter of the Octagon, from one Pillar to its opposite.		65. 4.
The Height of the Pillars which support the Dome and Lantern.		62.
The perpendicular Height of the Dome, springing from the Capitals of the Pillars, to the Aperture of the Lantern.	—————	32.
The Height of the Lantern itself, from its Aperture on the Dome, to its vaulted Roof.	—————	48.
The clear Diameter of the Lantern within.	—————	30.
The whole Height from the Floor to the Centre of the Lantern.		142.
The Length of the New Choir from the Entrance to the East-end.		101.
The Breadth of the New Choir from the backs of the Stalls.	—	34 2½
The Height of the vaulted Roof of the new Choir.	—————	70.
The Length of St. Mary's Chapel, (used as a Church for Trinity Parish,) Inside.		100.
The Breadth of the same, within.	—————	46.
The Height of its vaulted Roof within.	—————	60.

THE Cloisters, of which there are but small Remains at present, have been much altered and enlarged at different times: They were on the South-side of the Church, and had a communication with the old Chapter-House and the Refectory of the Convent, now the Dean's Lodgings.—But to give the Reader a general Idea of the original Form of the Cathedral, and the Site of the Convent, &c. I have delineated in Plate XLIX, a Plan of the Conventual Church and Buildings annexed to it, the original Form of the Cathedral before it was enlarged, with the Cloisters, Chapter-House, and other Buildings adjoining to it.

In

In Plate XLVIII, I have given,

Fig. 1. A Representation of the Shrine of St. *Etheldreda*; see page 117.

Fig. 2. The Disposition of the Shrines, &c. near the Circular End of the Cathedral, p. 117.

Fig. 3. Specimens of ancient Gothic Ornaments, Capitals, &c. taken chiefly from the Remains of the Conventual Church, Plate IV. and mentioned p. 34, 35.

In Plate IV, is represented a Plan and Elevation of the Remains of the Old Conventual Church cleared of the present Incumbrances, mentioned pag. 24; by which will appear the Style of Architecture prevailing in the earliest times of the *Saxons*.

The general Dimensions of this Church were as follows, viz.

The Length of the Nave, from the West Door to the Door entering into the Choir, 105 Feet.

The Length of the Choir, from the West Wall, to the Entrance into the Tribuna, *a*, 51 Feet.

The whole Length within, from the West Door to the East End, 169 Feet.

The Breadth of the Nave, including the Porticos, 41 Feet.

The Breadth of the Choir,  $39\frac{1}{2}$  Feet.

The Height of the Nave, &c. from the Floor to the Roof, 33 Feet.

The North Door-way *b*, is represented in Plate V. Fig. 1.

The Choir Door *c*, by Fig. 2. in the same Plate.

*d* The West Door.

*e e e* Part of the Convent adjoining to the Church.

Plate L. Fig. 1. I have given, A Perspective View of *Ely Porta*, the present Gateway into the College. p. 222.

Fig. 2, 3. A perfected Plan and Section of the old Chapter-House; drawn from the Remains yet standing in the Dean's Garden, and from the other Parts of the Foundations discovered by digging.

I am sensible that there are many other Particulars within this District, deserving the attention of the Curious; such are, the Alterations made in the Convent, &c. and the several Edifices, whose Traces and Parts are now remaining; to which might be added, the ancient and present state of the Episcopal Palaces, and of other Religious Houses in and near the City of ELY. But these Particulars, not falling within my proposed Plan, I refer, and earnestly recommend, to some future representation. Neither can I at present accurately describe the Works in the New Choir, or the other Improvements, which are now carrying on, from the no less generous than provident Care of the Dean and Prebendaries, assisted and invigorated by the Munificence of the present Bishop.

JAMES BENTHAM.

Ely, Nov. 1, 1770.



- I. South-East Prospect of the Cathedral Church of Ely.
- II. Head-piece to Dedication, Arms of the Bishop.
- III. Head-piece, p. 1. *Augustin* the Monk, Missionary from Pope *Gregory* the Great, preaching to *Ethelbert* King of Kent, A.D. 597.
- IV. A Plan and Elevation of the Remains of the Old Conventual Church, built by St. *Etheldreda*, in the time of the Heptarchy, A.D. 673, and repaired in King *Edgar*'s Reign, A.D. 970.
- V. Two Door-ways of the said Church.
- VI. South Door into the Cathedral.
- VII. South Door from the West End of the Cloister.
- VIII. The Effigies of S. *Etheldreda*, Foundress of the Conventual Church and Convent adjoining, taken from a Painting in Glafs in the Bishop's Palace at Ely.

*The Historical Reliefs on the Eight Pillars of the Dome, in four Plates, viz.*

- IX. 1. S. *Etheldreda*'s Marriage with *Egfrid* King of *Northumberland*, pag. 48.  
2. Her receiving the Veil at *Coldingham* Abby, pag. 50.
- X. 3. A Legendary Story of her, explained p. 52.  
4. Another of the same kind, explained at pag. 53.
- XI. 5. S. *Etheldreda* constituted Abbess of *Ely*, pag. 54.  
6. Her death and interment, pag. 58.
- XII. 7. Translation of her Body, pag. 61.  
8. Another Legendary Story, found in Monkish Writers of her Life.
- XIII. *Tabula Eliensis*; being the Names, Effigies, and Arms of the Forty Knights quartered on the Monastery of *Ely* by King *William* the Conqueror, with the Names and Effigies of the Monks their Companions: taken from an ancient Painting in the Palace at *Ely*.
- XIV. The Arms of the See of *Ely*, and of the Bishops;
- XV. Remains of the Monuments of Bishop *Barnet*; and of *Hugo de Northwold*, Builder of the Presbytery, being that part of the Church where the New Choir is placed.
- XVI. Monument of Bishop *Kilkenny*.
- XVII. Monument of Bishop *De Luda*.
- XVIII. Monument of Bishop *Hotham*, Builder of the Three Arches Eastward of the Dome.
- XIX. Monument of Cardinal *Lewis de Luxemburgh*, Archbishop of *Rouen*, and Perpetual Administrator of the Bishoprick of *Ely*.
- XX. Remains of Bishop *Gray*'s Monument.
- XXI. Inside View of Bishop *Alcock*'s Chapel, and Gravestone.
- XXII. Monument of Bishop *Redman*.
- XXIII. Monument of Bishop *Stanley*.
- XXIV. Inside View of Bishop *West*'s Chapel, and Monument.

- XXV. Gravestones of Bishop *Goodrich*, and Dean *Tindal*.
- XXVI. Monument of Bishop *Heton*.
- XXVII. Monument of Bishop *Laney*.
- XXVIII. Monument of Bishop *Gunning*.
- XXIX. Monument of Bishop *Patrick*.
- XXX. Monument of Bishop *Moore*.
- XXXI. Monument of Bishop *Fleetwood*.
- XXXII. Monument of Bishop *Greene*.
- XXXIII. Monument of Bishop *Butts*.
- XXXIV. Monument of Dean *Cæsar*.
- XXXV. A View of the elegant Marble Font and Cover, given to the Church by Dean *Spencer*.
- XXXVI. Monument of Dr. *Charles Fleetwood*, Prebendary of *Ely*.
- XXXVII. Monument of *John Tiptoft* Earl of *Worcester* and his two Wives.
- XXXVIII. Monument of *Robert Steward*, Esq;
- XXXIX. Monument of Sir *Mark Steward*.
- XL. A Plan of the Cathedral.
- XLI. Inside View of the Dome and Lantern.
- XLII. A Geometrical Elevation of the South-side of the Cathedral, taken A.D. 1756.
- XLIII. A Section of the Cathedral from East to West.
- XLIV. A Section, of the Dome and Lantern through the Great Cross.
- XLV. An Elevation of the East-end of the Cathedral.
- XLVI. A Perspective View of St. *Mary's* Chapel, adjoining to the Cathedral; now used as a Church for *Trinity* Parish.
- XLVII. Inside View of the same.
- XLVIII. Fig. 1. The Shrine of S. *Etheldreda*.
  - 2. Plan of the Altars and Shrines, pag. 117.
  - 3. Specimens of ancient Gothic Ornaments, Capitals, &c. in the Old Conventual Church, &c. pag. 34, 35.
- XLIX. Fig. 1. Plan of the Cathedral Church, as originally built.
  - 2. Plan of the Cloisters adjoining, shewing the several Alterations they have undergone.
  - 3. Site of the Old Chapter-house.
  - 4. Plan of the Conventual Church.
  - 5. A Plan of the Convent adjoining.
- I. Fig. 1. A View of the West-side of *Ely Porta*, the present Gate-way into the College.
  - 2. Section of the Old Chapter-House.
  - 3. Plan of the same.



### *Directions to the Binder.*

**T**HIS Work is contrived so as to bind in One or Two Volumes, as shall be thought proper.

Place the South Prospect of the Cathedral, Plate I. before the General Title.

Plates IV. & V.	at pag. 29,	Plate X.	at pag. 52.
—— VI. & VII.	at pag. 35.	—— XI.	at pag. 54.
—— VIII.	at pag. 45.	—— XII.	at pag. 58.
—— IX.	at pag. 48.	—— XIII.	at pag. 106.

Place the Title Vol. II. before Sheet F f.

Let Plate XIV, and all the remaining Prints follow this Half-Sheet, in the order they are numbered; and after them the Appendix, &c.

*Arms of the See of Ely, & of all the Bishops from the Foundation, AD. 1109*



*Viro Reverendo Johanni Gooch S.T.P.  
Sumptibus suis in aere incisam*

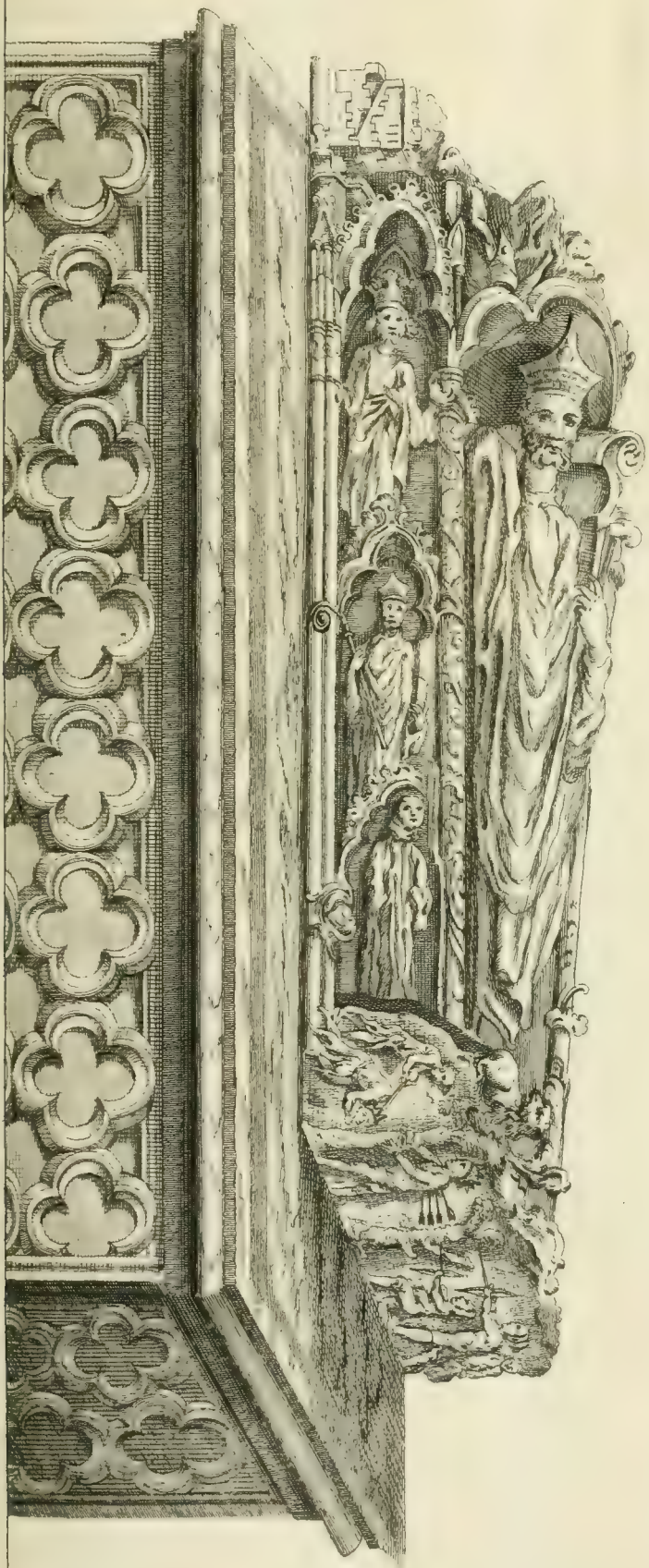


*Canonico Eliensi, hanc Tabulam  
grato animo D. D. D. Jacobus Bentham.*



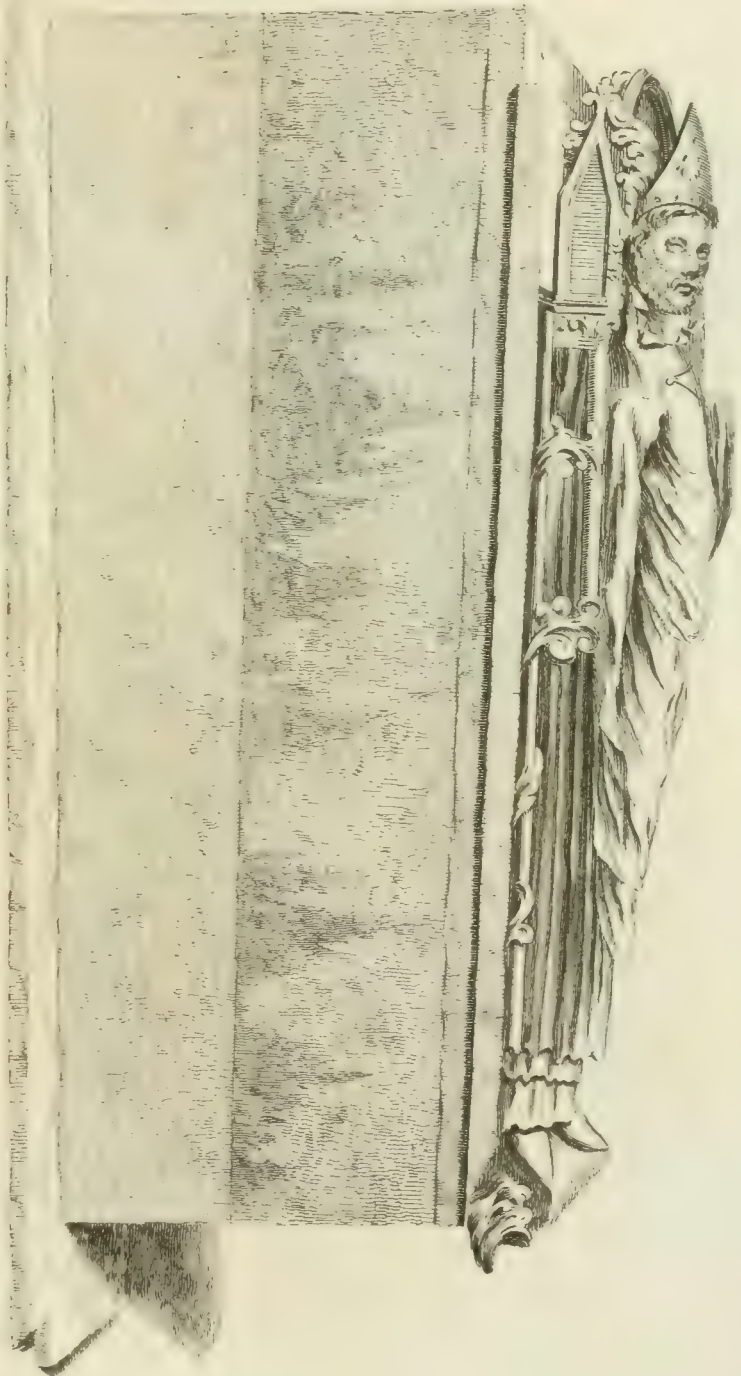


Petrus, beatus Johannes, Nicolaus S. P. Canonice Thome, **W**esepie augustibus hoc. Monumentum Johannis  
 . Barnard pindudum Epi Thome et iustitiam, et hanc Episcopum Petri, Hugonis de . Norwold  
 olim Epi Thome et . Bishoprici . pindudum, **W**esepie anno D. D. D. . Jacobus . Bentham.





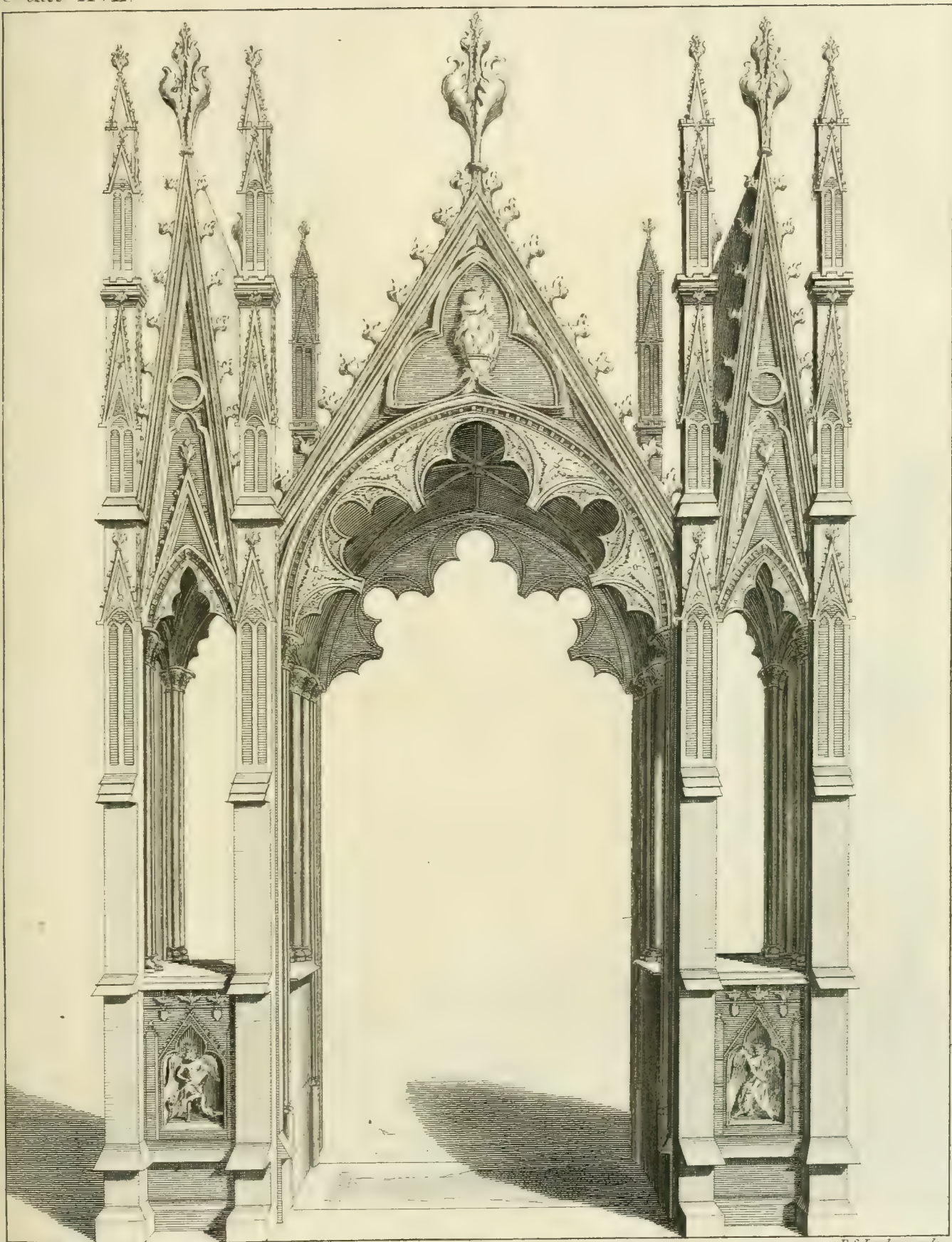




*Wm. Henr. Edmund Gamett, J. Esq. Rector of the  
chapel of St. James, Hampshire, who in 1766  
had a Monumentum Erectum in the  
chapel, which was in 1766.*





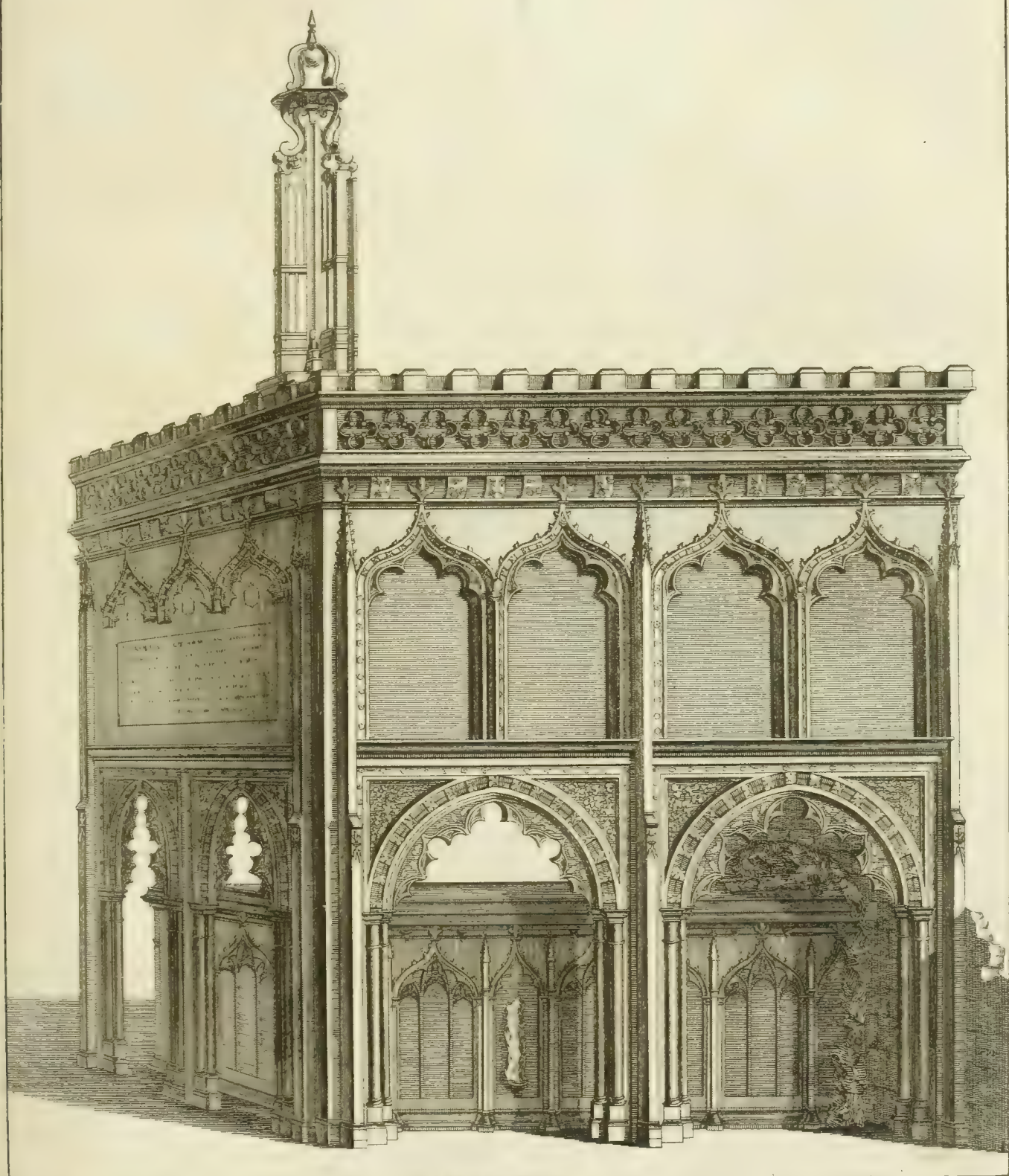


P. S. Lamborn sculp.

Viro Rev.<sup>do</sup> Gulielmo Cole A.M. Rectori de  Blechley in Agro Buckingham: hoc Monumentum  
 Ven. Patris Gulielmi de Luda olim Ep.<sup>i</sup> Elien. sumptibus suis in aere incisum, grato animo  
 D.D.D. Jacobus Bentham.







To the R<sup>t</sup>. Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Francis Lord Godolphin  
Bishop of Ely, engraid at his Expense



this Monument of John Hothum formerly  
is most gratefully inscribed by James Benethum.  
1787







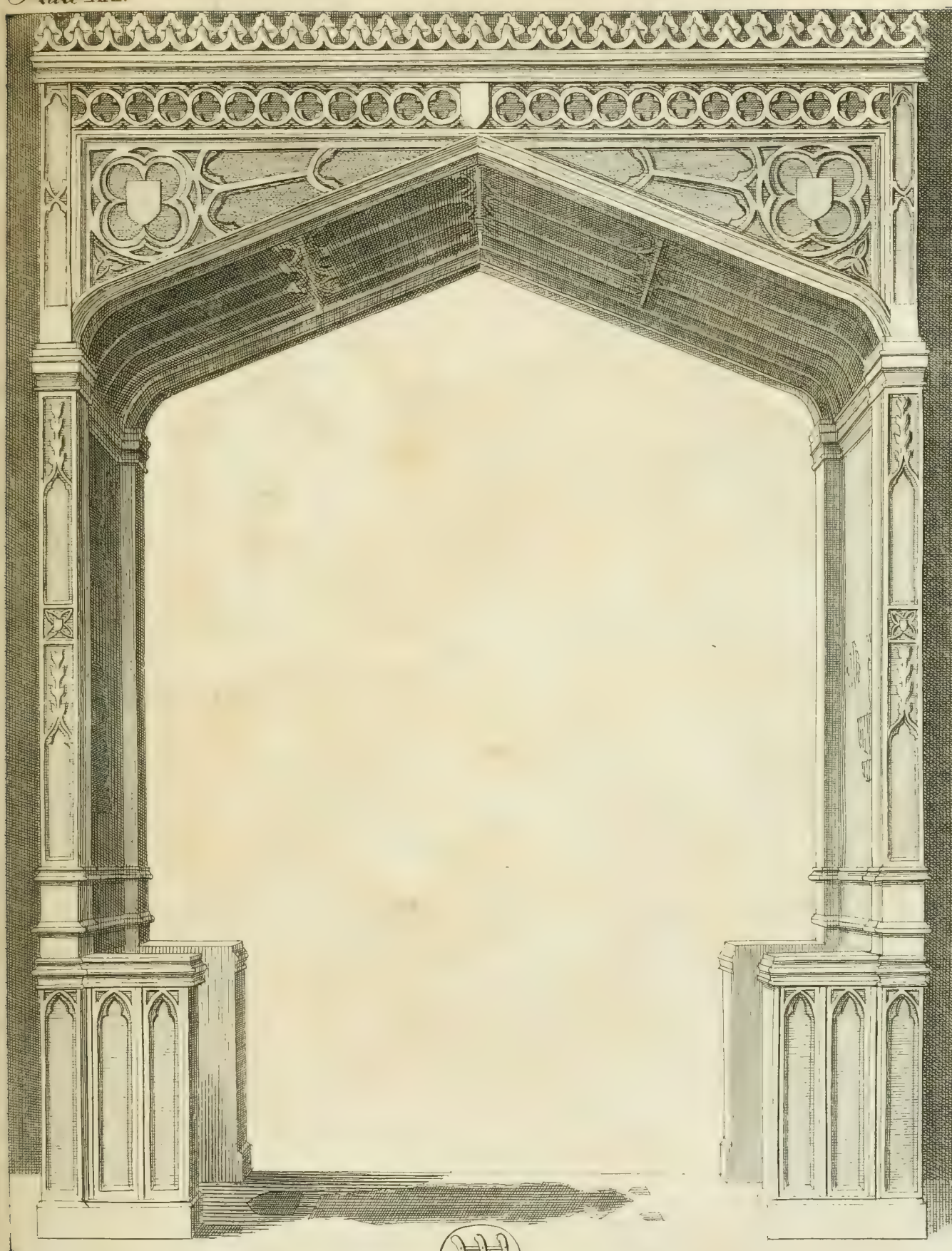
To the R<sup>t</sup>. Hon<sup>ble</sup>. George Earl of Orford  
engraved at his expence is most



This Monument of Cardinal Luxemburgh  
gratefully inscribed by James Pentland







To Charles Gray Esq. of Colchester,  
 Rev.<sup>d</sup> William Gray formerly  
 at his Expence, is most

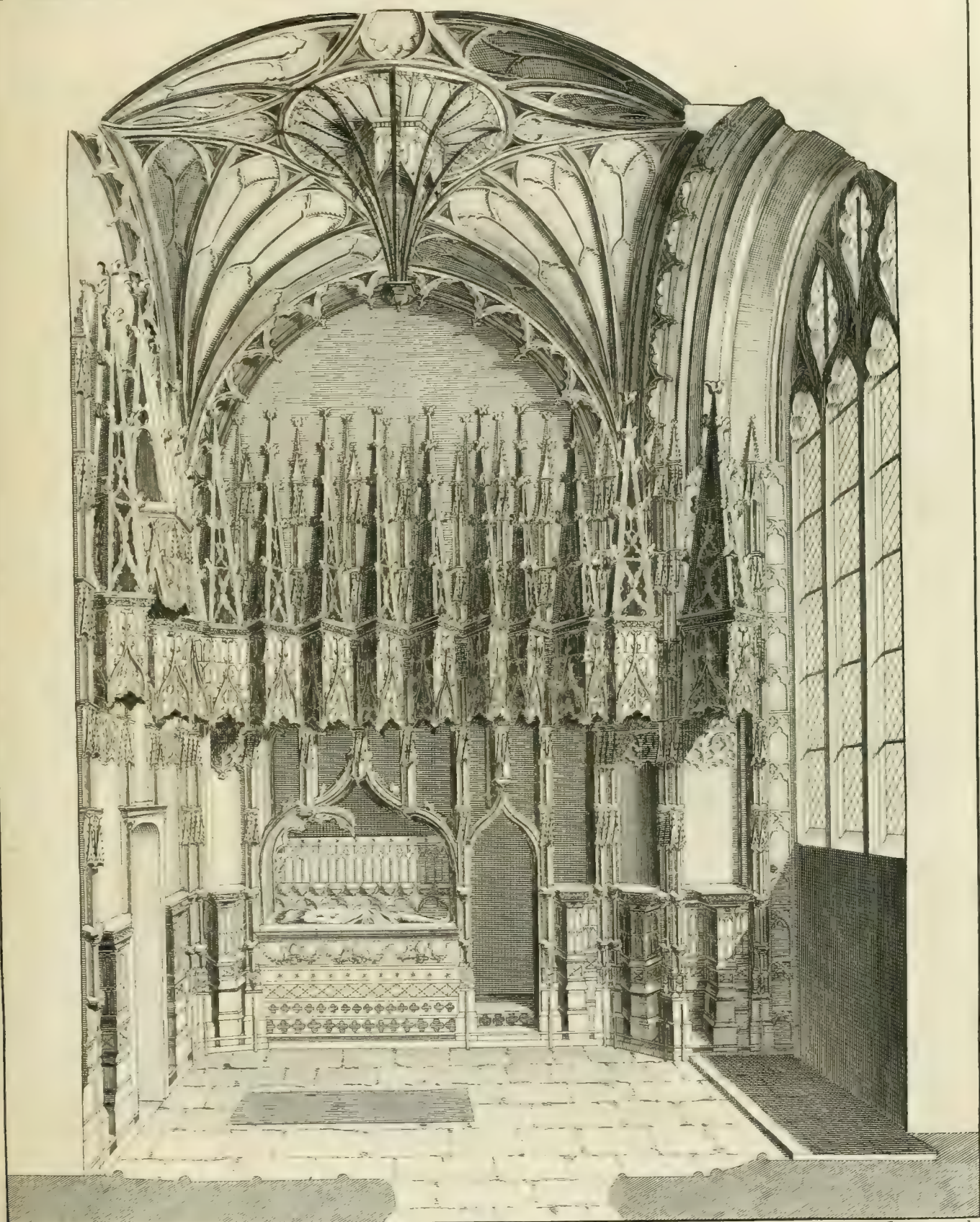


this Monument of the Right  
 Bishop of Ely, engraved  
 gratefully inscribed by

James Bentham.  
 1764







J. Hens delin.

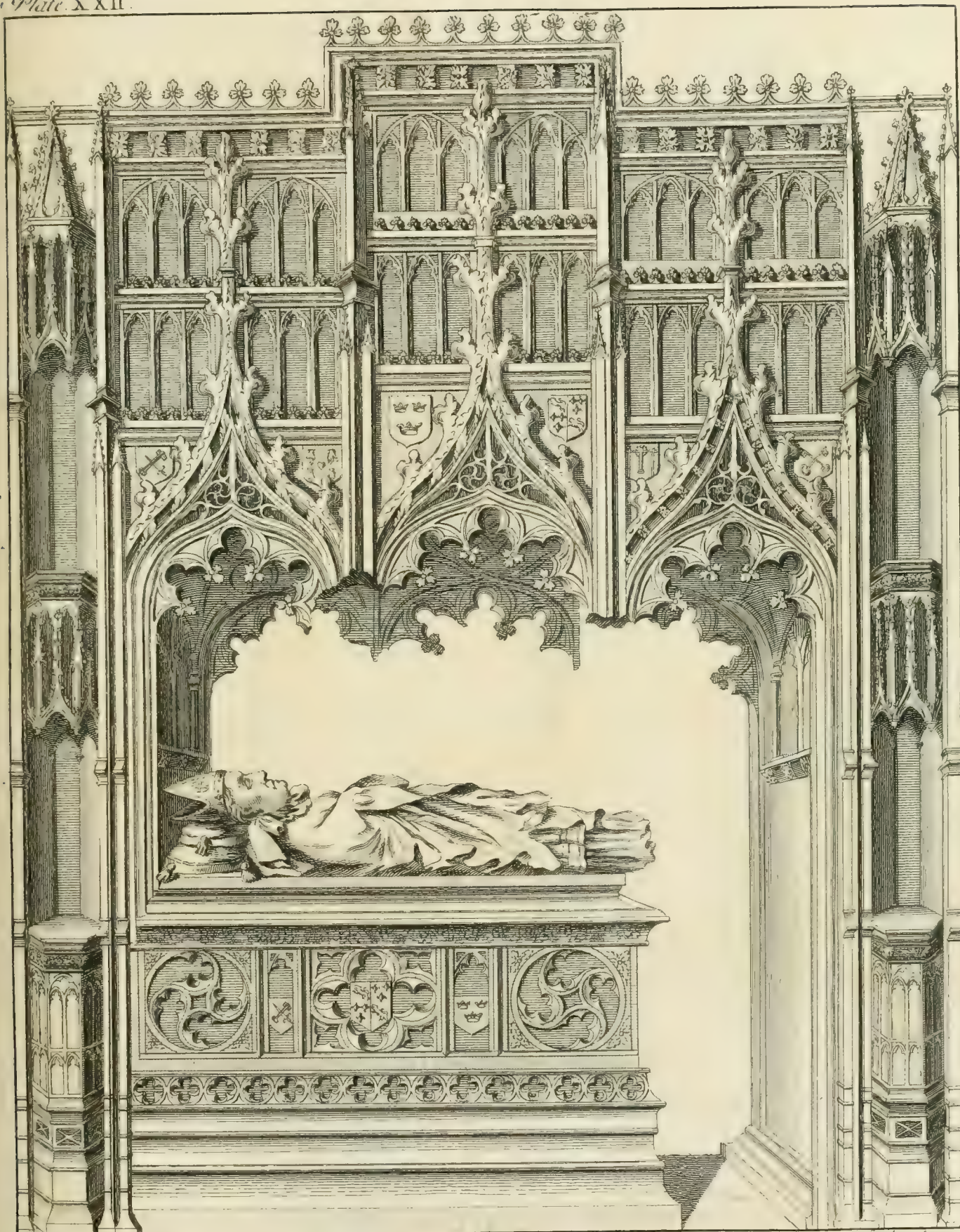
P. S. Lamborn sculp.

Viro rev. do Lyndford Caryl S.T.P. Custodi, et sociis Coll: Jesu Cant: hunc typum  
 Sacelli Joh: Alcock olim Epi: Elien: & ejusdem Collegii Fundatoris, eorum  
 sumptibus ære incisum grato animo D. D. D. Jacobus Bentham.







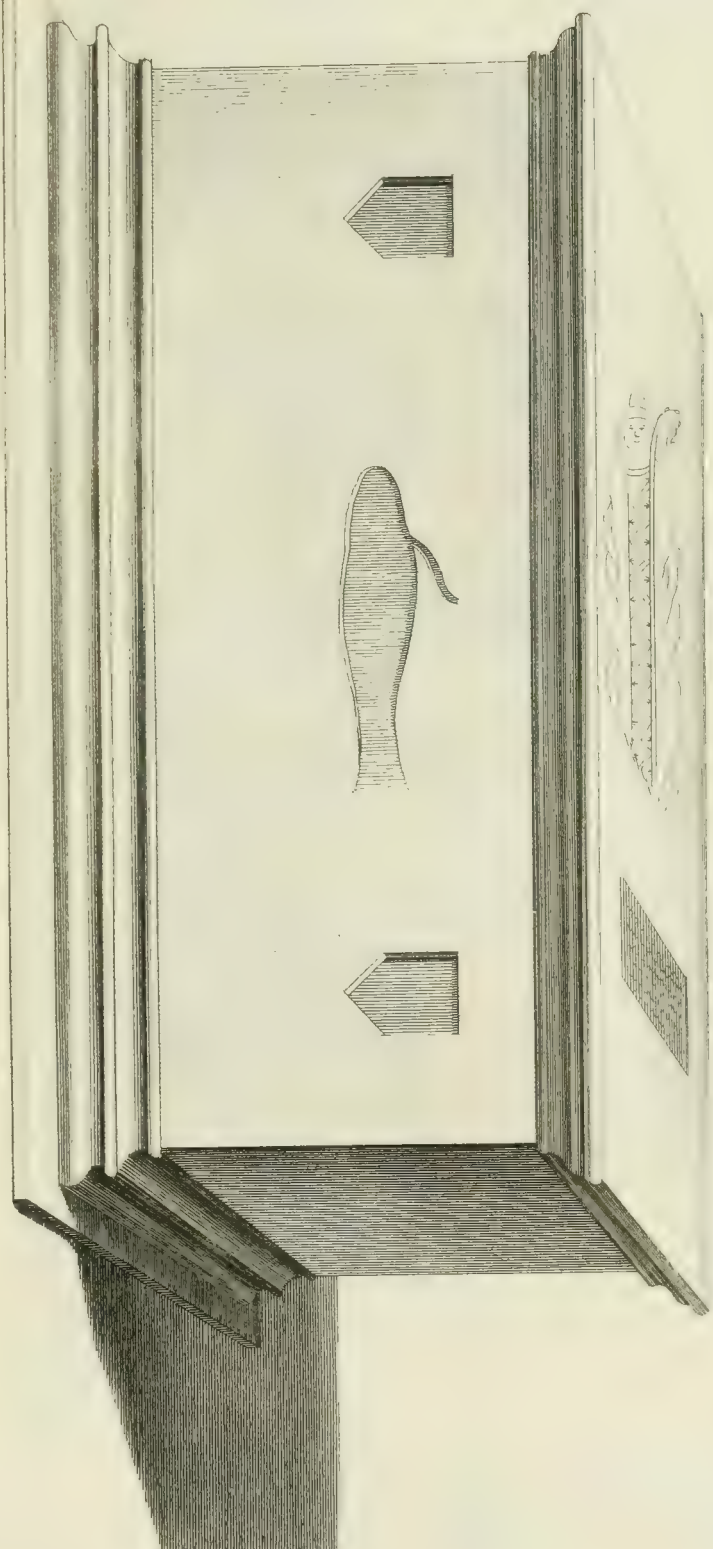


*Viro Rev.<sup>do</sup> Johanni Price S.T.P. Canonico Elien: hoc Monumentum Rev.<sup>di</sup>  
 Patris Ricardi Redman olim Epi. Elien: sumptibus suis æri incisum  
 grato animo D.S.G. Jacobus Bentham.*





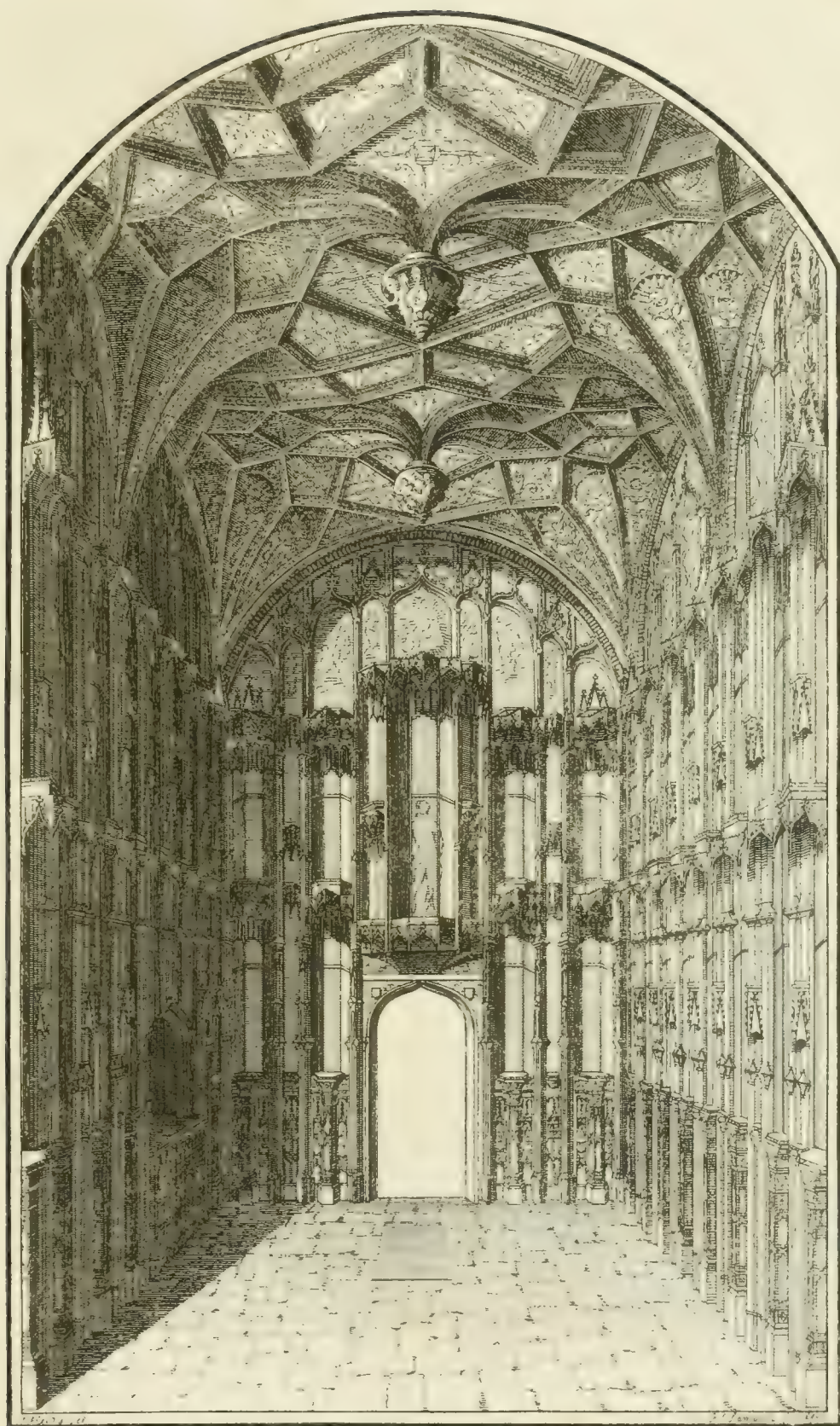
Of us charite pray for the soule of James Stanley fithyne bulinger  
of Ely and Secrer of this Colledge of manchester which decessed oute  
of this transitorye world the xiiij daye of march the yee of our lord God  
MCCCCC. xxiij upon whos soule and all cristen soules thei haue mercy.  
Gue to graue to the wold translatas & ermine wold thei haue mercy.  
or paratus & filia hoim biquo gram oide. ut quid diliget isuitate  
et quide iudicium & Etiam sapient et intelliget ac pouditans poudit.



*Bishop Stanley's Monument in the Collegiate Church of Manchester 1764.*







Viro venerabili Joanni Sumner S.T.P. Proposito  
 et S.<sup>ni</sup> Nicolai Cantuariensis hunc typum. facelli  
 Sumptibus eorum in ore incisionum gesto



et Scholaribus Coll. Regalis b<sup>te</sup> Mariæ Virginis  
 et Nicolai West<sup>monasterii</sup> olim Episcopi Eliensis  
 animo D.D.D. Joannes Bentham. 1764.







VMPHRIDVS TYNDALL NOBILI.

MILLESSIMO SEXCENTESIMO DECIMO QVARTO ANNO ÆTATIS SÆ SEXAGESIMO QVINTO.



VSQVEQVO DOMINE VSQVEQVO

THE BODY OF THE WOORTHY & REVEREND PRELATE  
VMPHRIDYNDALL, DOCTOR OF DIVINITY, THE FOURTH DEAN  
OF THIS CHVRCH AND MASTER OF QUEEN'S COLLEDGE IN  
CAMBRIDGE DOTH HERE EXPECT Y COMING OF OUR SAVIOUR

In prefence, government, good actions and in birth,  
Graue, wise, courageous, Noble, was this earth,  
The poor, & church, & colledge saye here lyes  
A friende, A Deane, A maiester true, good, wise.

DIE MENSIS OCTOB: ANO SALVTIS

NORFOLCENSIVM TYNDALLO RVM FAMILIA ORIVNDVS DECANVS QVARTVS ISTVS ECCLIESIA OBIT XII.

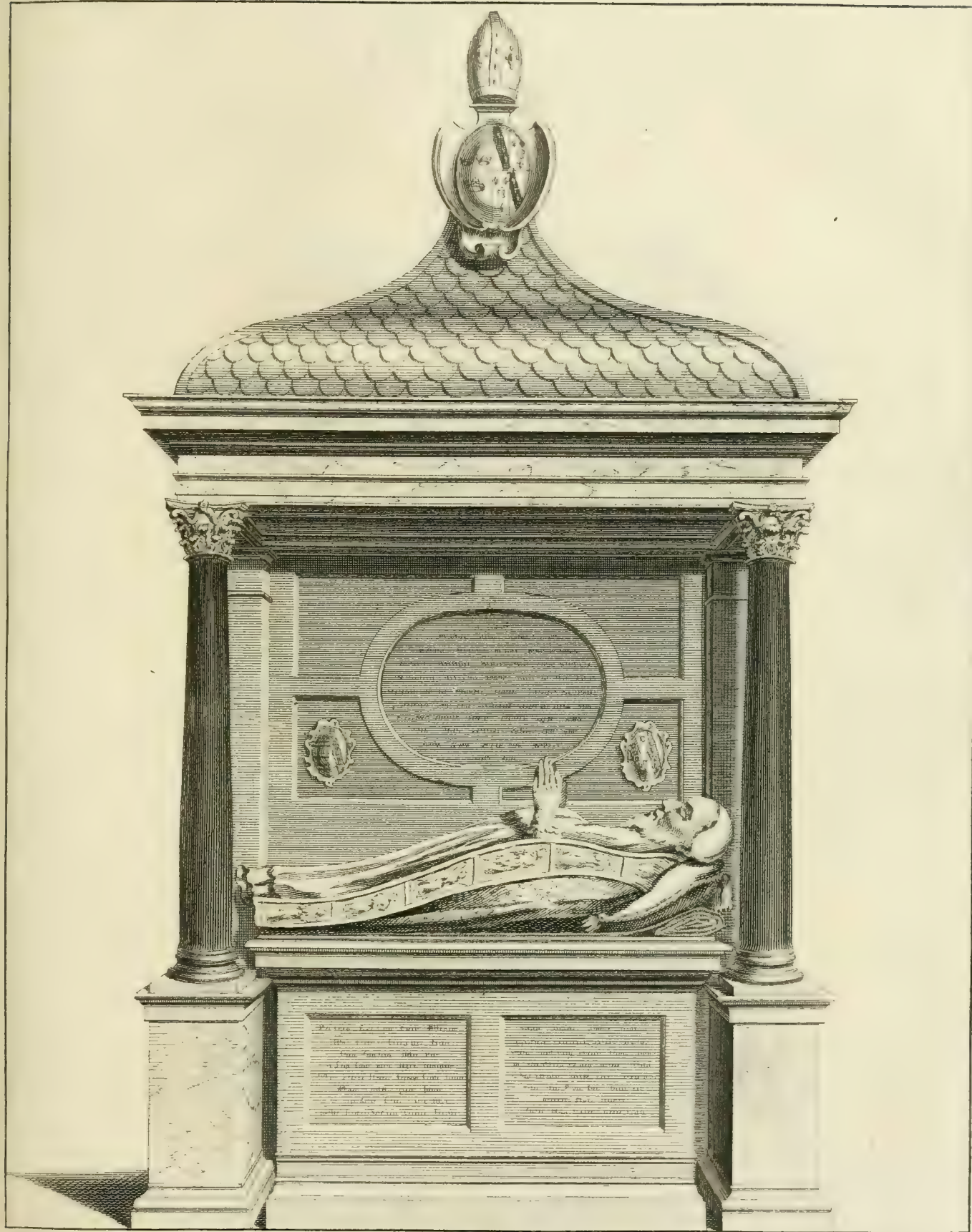
Viro Rev.<sup>do</sup> Roberto Plumptre S.T.P.  
hanc Tabulam, eorum sumptibus in ære



Præsidi et Sociis Collegii Regini Cantab:  
incisam, grato animo D.D.D.  
Jacobus Bentham.







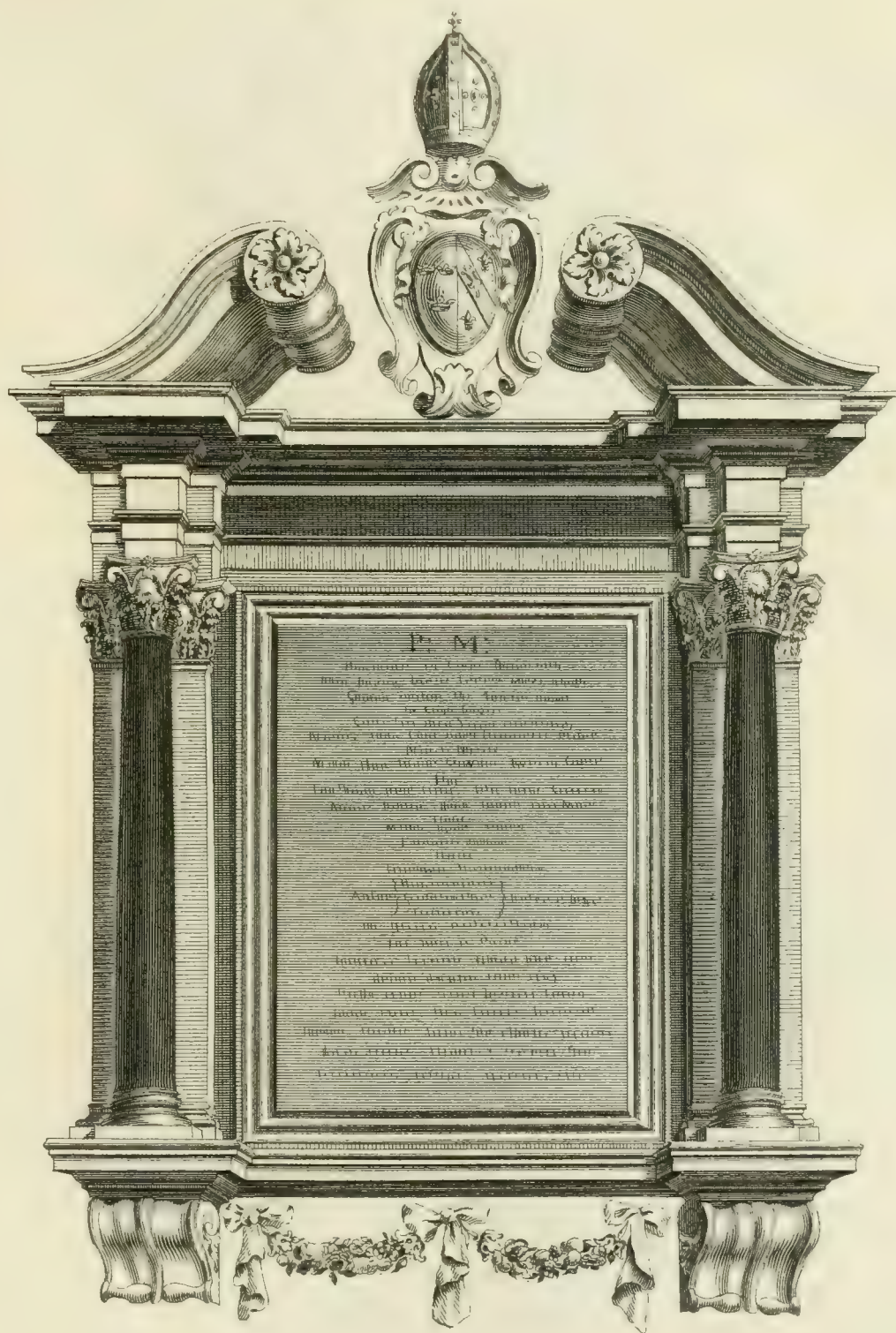
Viro Rev.<sup>do</sup> Henr: Heaton S.T.B.  
admodum Rev.<sup>di</sup> Patris Martini Heaton  
cere insculptum, grato animo



Canonico Elien: hoc Monumentum  
olim Epū: Elien. sumptibus suis in  
D.D.D. Jacobus Bentham. 1766

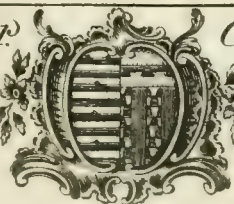






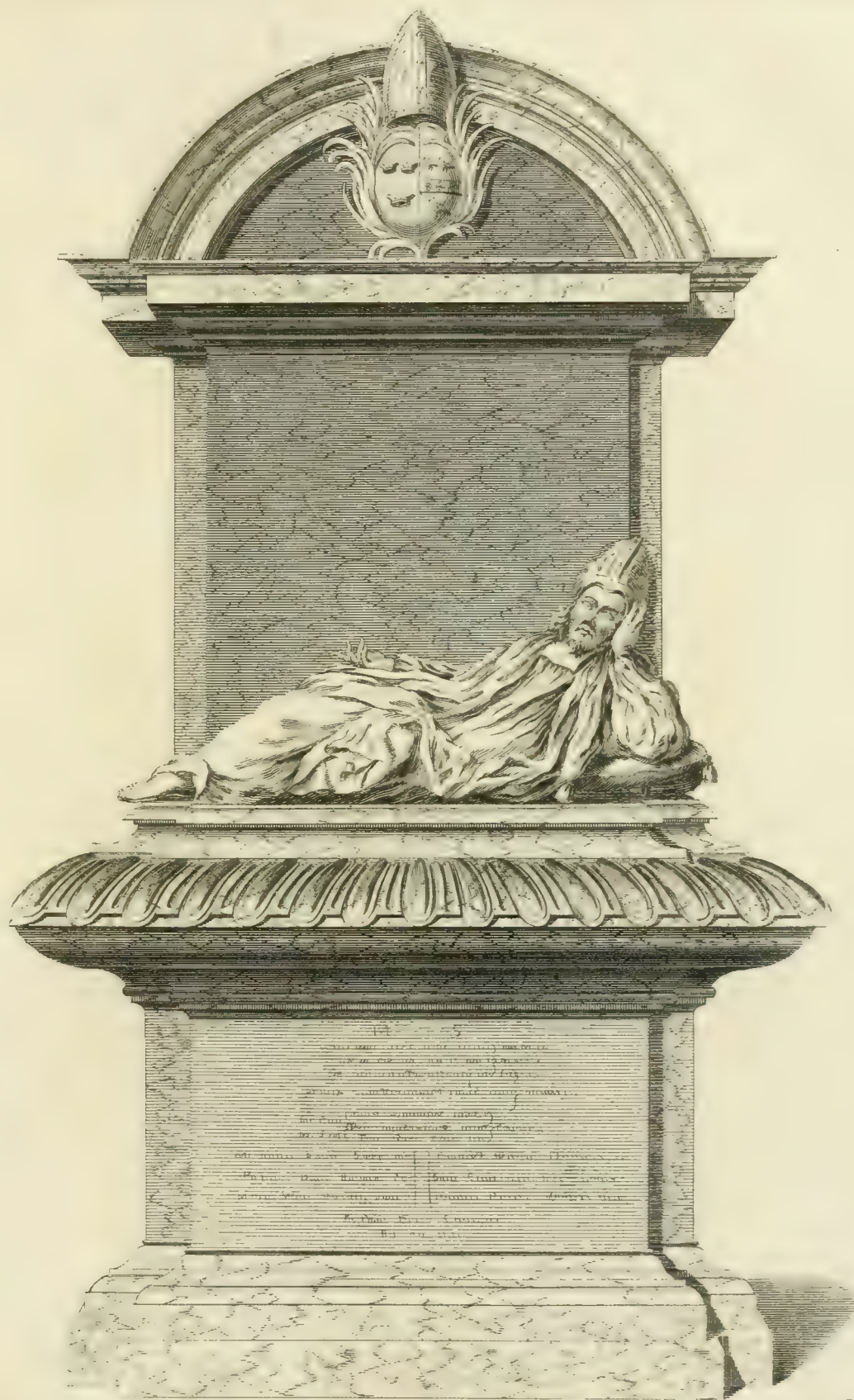
P. S. Lamborn sculp.

Viro Rev.<sup>do</sup> Rogero Long, S.T.P. Custodi, nec non Sociis Collegii  
 sive Aulae Mariae de Valentia in Academia Cantabrigiae hoc Monumentum  
 Rev.<sup>di</sup> Patris Benjamin Lanei nuper Episcopi Eliensis eorum Sumptibus  
 aere incisum, grato animo D.D.D. Jacobus Bentham 1766









P. Lamborn sculp.

Viro rev.<sup>do</sup> Johanni Newcome S.T.P.  
hoc monumentum rev.<sup>di</sup> admodum  
eorum sumptibus ære insculptum,

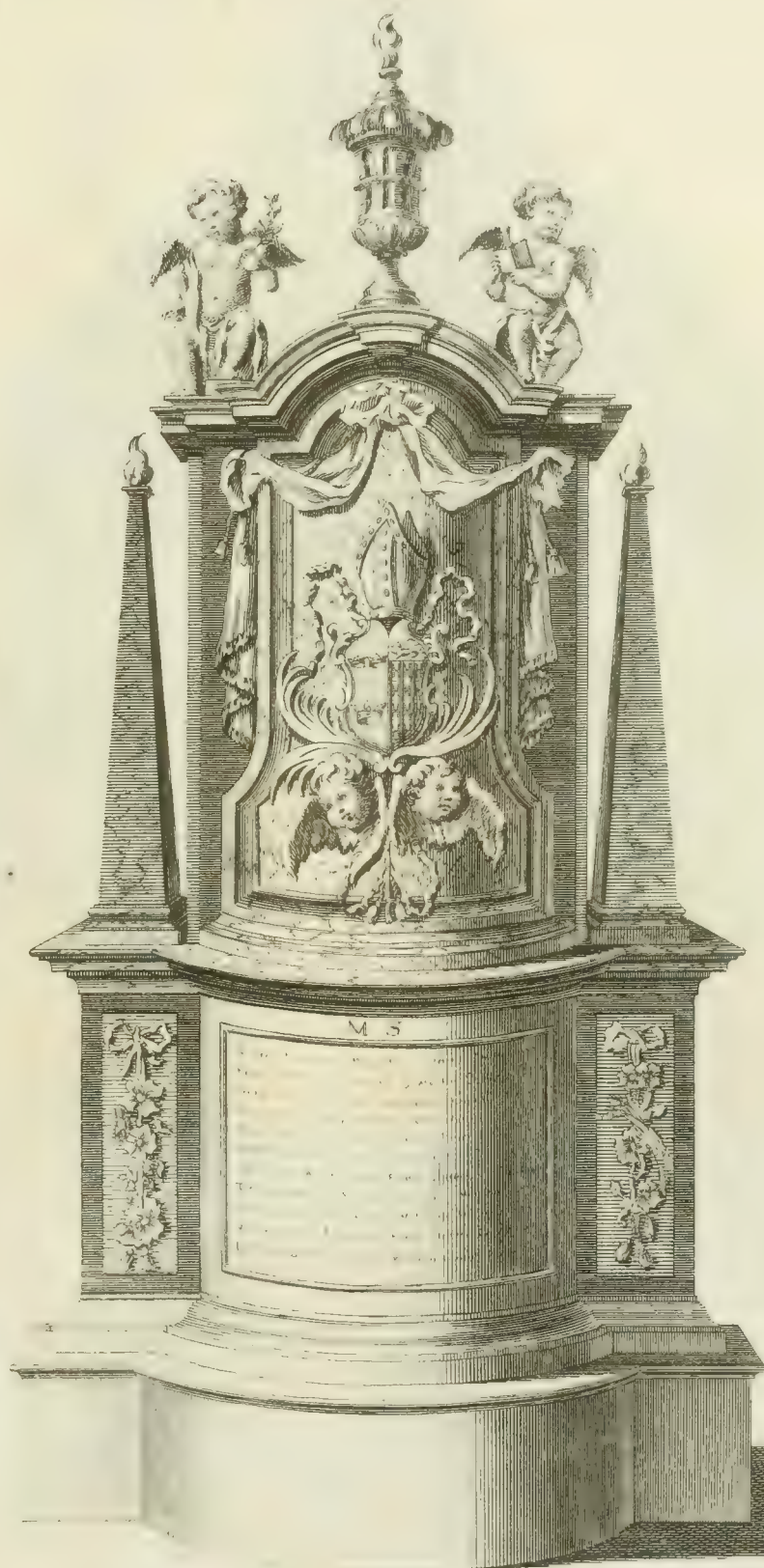


Magistro, & Sociis Coll. S. Johannis Cant.  
Petri Gunning nuper Ep.<sup>o</sup> Elien.  
humillimè D.D.D. Jacobus Bentham

1764







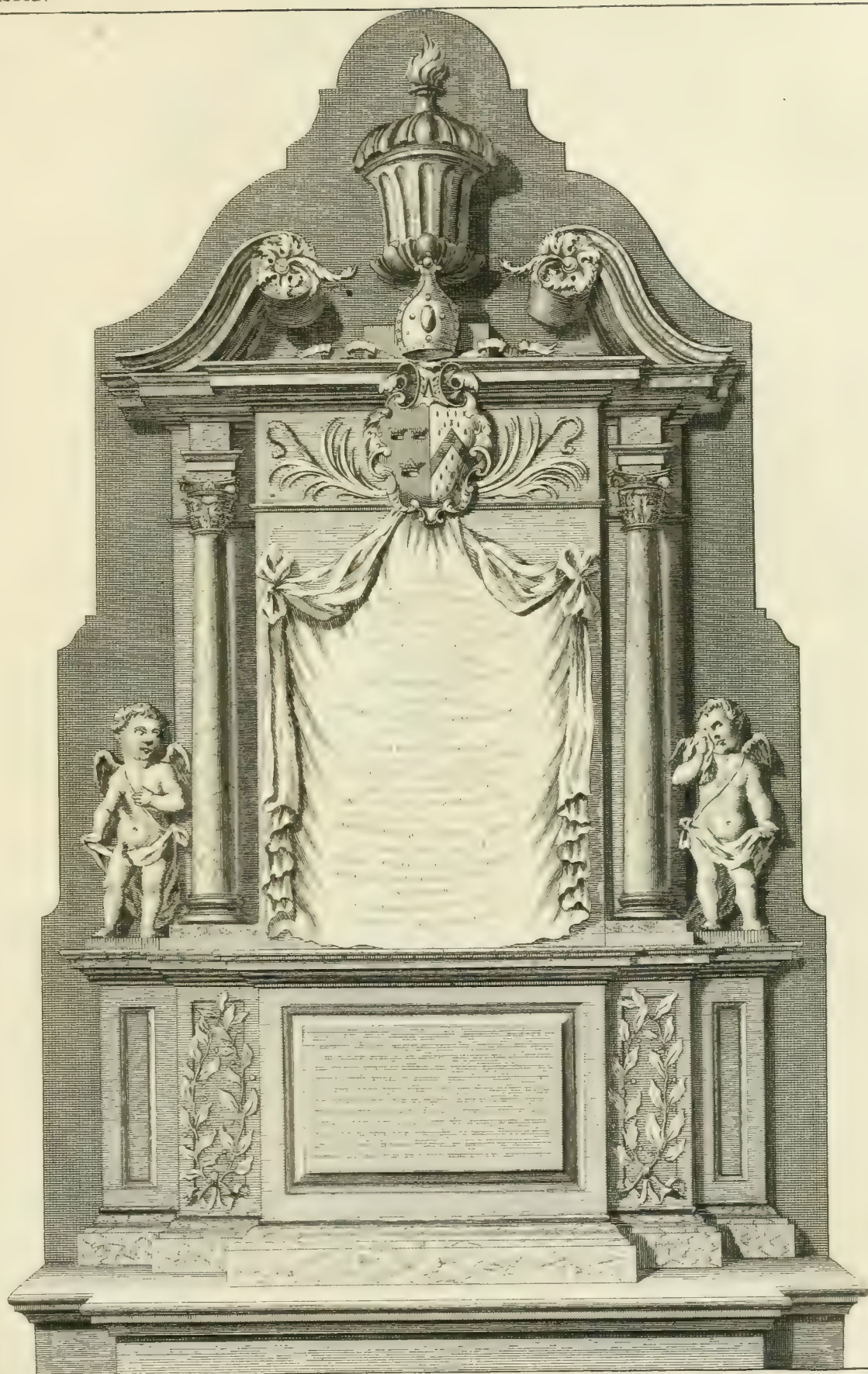
Viro Rev.<sup>do</sup> Carolo Plumpton S. T. P.  
 rev.<sup>di</sup> admodum Patris Simonis Patrick  
 incisum grato animo D. D. D.



Archidiacono Elien. hoc Monumentum  
 nuper Ep.<sup>us</sup> Elien. sumptibus suis in aere  
 Jacobus Bentham. 1707.







Viro Rev.<sup>do</sup> Samueli Knight A.M. Rectori de  
Rev.<sup>do</sup> admodum Patris Johannis Moore nuper  
grato animo

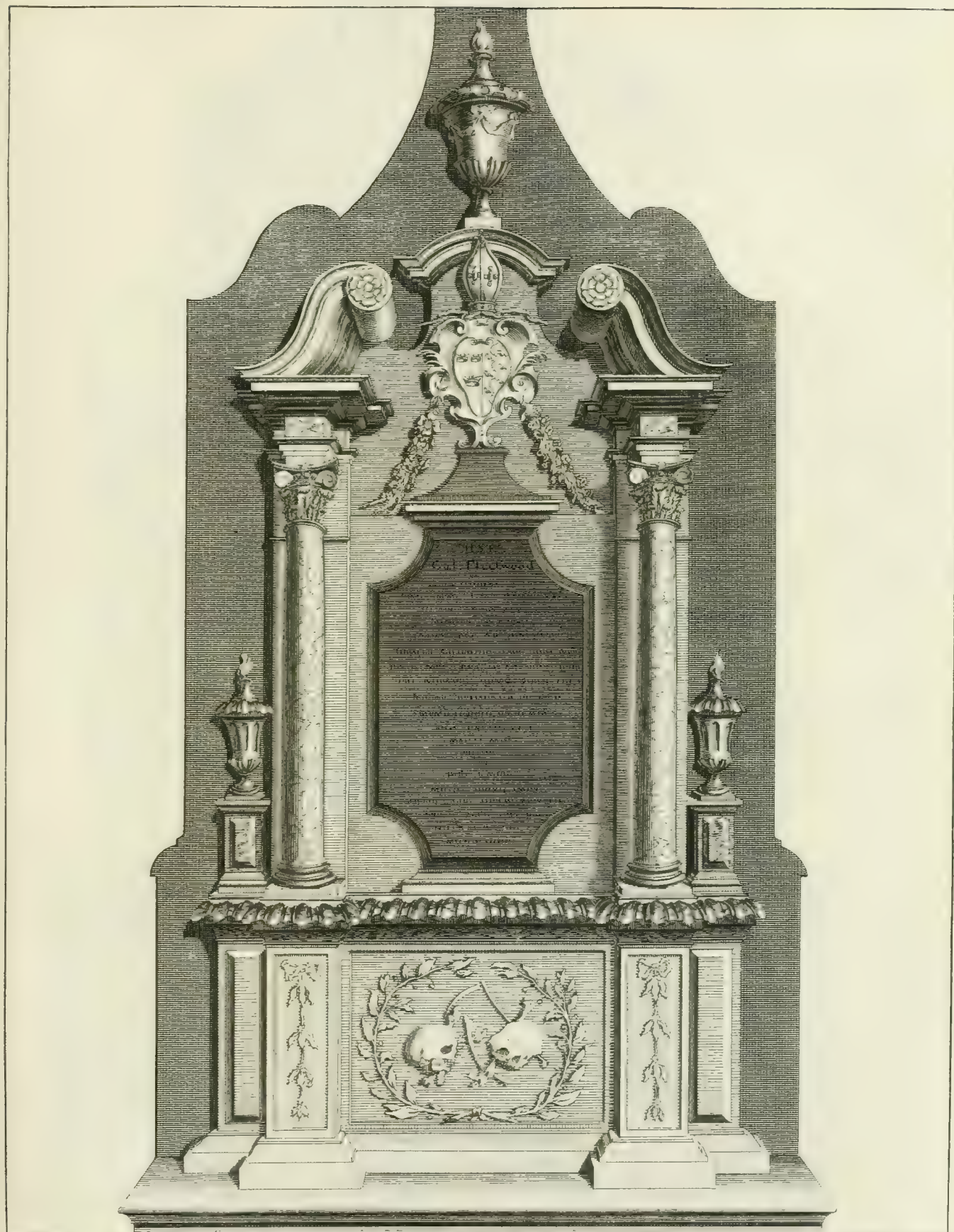


Stannrick, in Agro Northamp: hoc Monumentum  
Ep<sup>o</sup>. Elien: sumptibus suis in ære incisum,  
D.D.D. Jacobus Bentham.

P. S. Lamborn sculp







To M<sup>rs</sup> Ann Fleetwood of Gaulish in the County of Devon, this Monument of the late Right Rev<sup>d</sup> William Fleetwood L<sup>d</sup> Bishop of Ex<sup>ter</sup>, engraved at her Expence is most gratefully Inscribed by James Benham.













To M<sup>rs</sup>. Ann Greene Relict of the R<sup>t</sup>. Rev<sup>d</sup>. Robert Butts, Lord Bishop of Ely, this Monument of her late Husband, engraved at her Expence, is most gratefully Inscribed by Ja<sup>s</sup>. Bentham. 1764







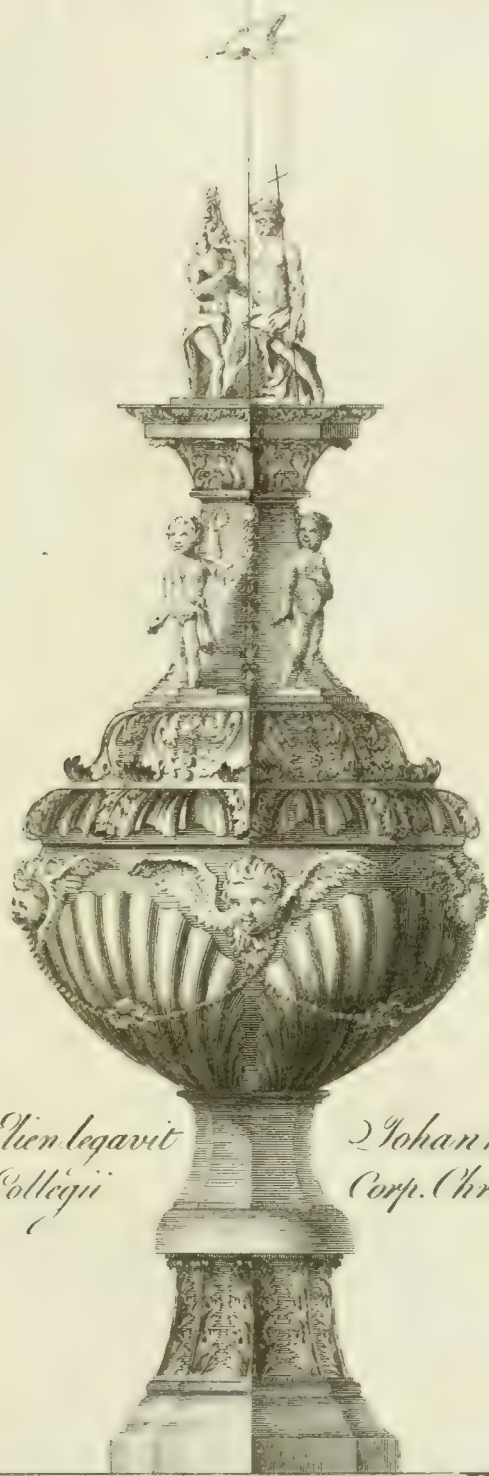
Viro Honorab. & Rev.<sup>do</sup> Carolo Hervey S.T.P.  
Henrici Caesaris S.T.P. jampridem Decani Elien.



Canonico Elien., hoc Monumentum  
sumptibus suis in aere insculptum grato animo  
D.D.D. Jacobus Bentham.





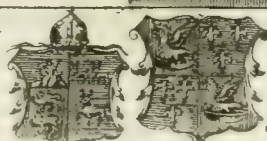


*Baptisterium Ecclesiae Cath. Elien. legavit  
eiusdem Ecclesiae Decanus et Collegii*

*Johannes Spencer S. T. P.  
Corp. Christi Cantabr. Praepositus, 1693.*

*1895 del*

*Rev. admodum in Christo Patri ac Dño  
Coll. Corp. Christi Cantabr. Praeposito  
Amplicius eorum in ore incisa m*

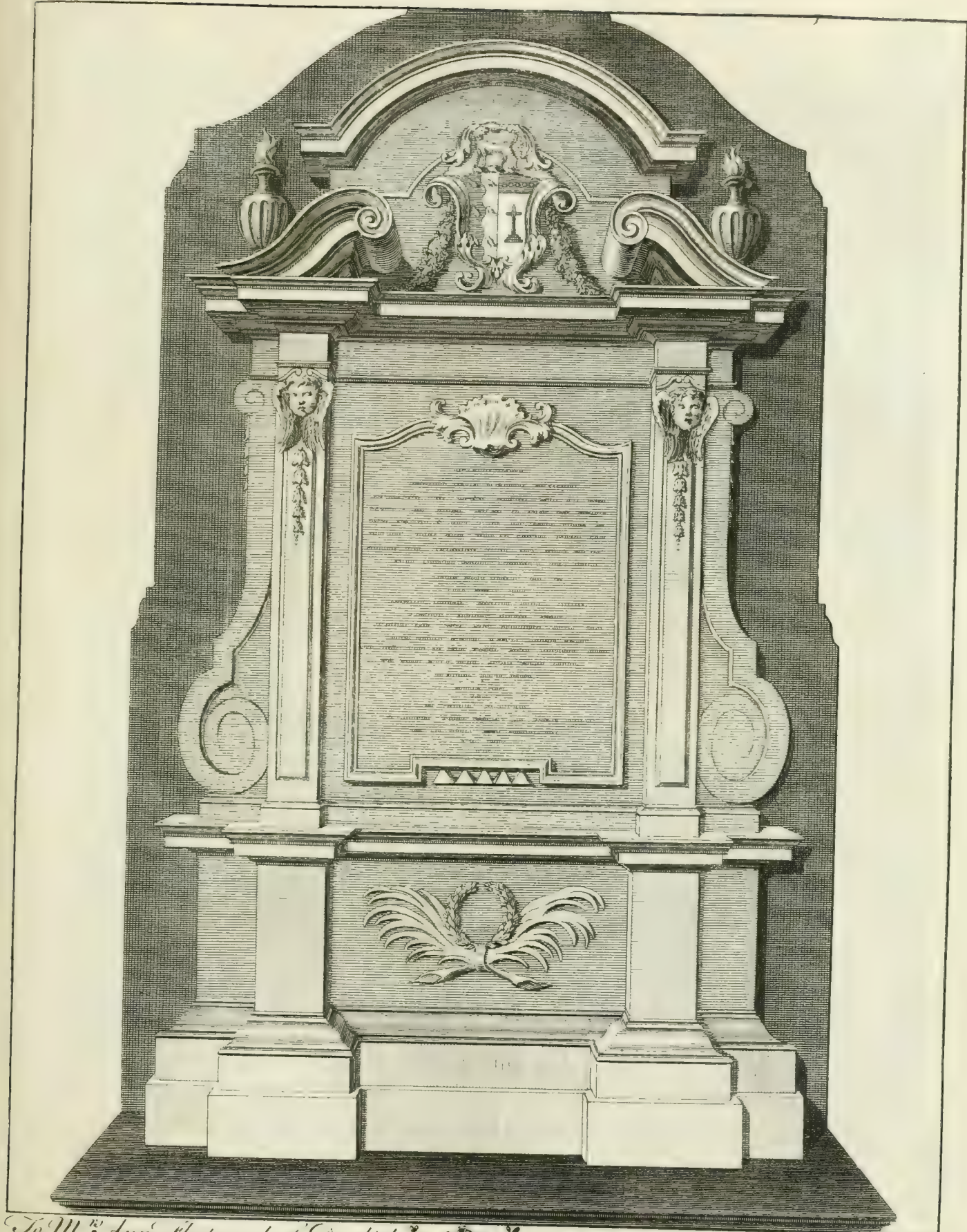


*Dño Johanni Green Lincoln Epō.  
et eiusdem Coll. Sociis, hanc Tabulam  
orato a nimo D. D. D. Jacobus Bentham. 1703.*

*P. S. Lamborn sculp*





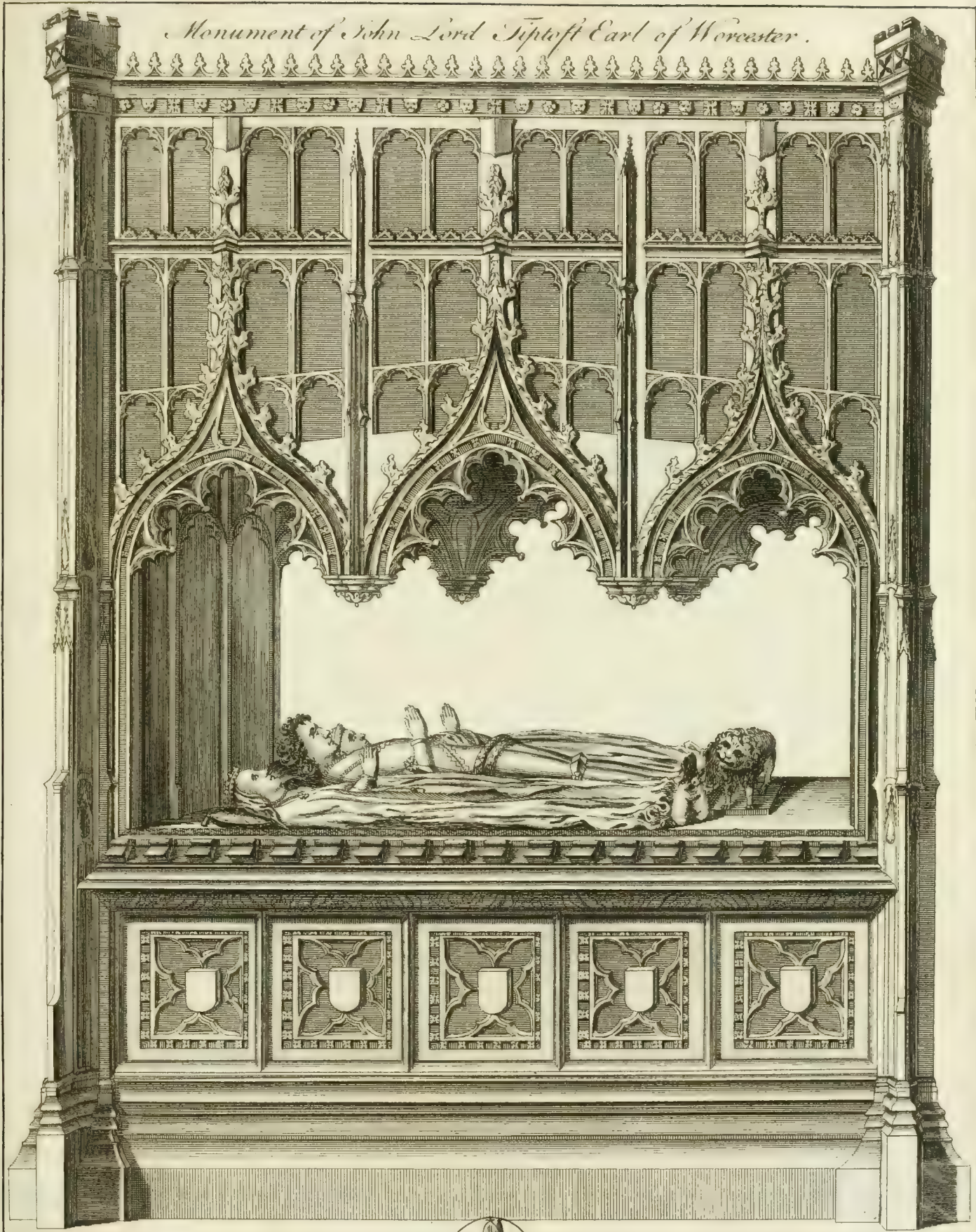


To M<sup>rs</sup> Ann Fleetwood of Gaulish Charles Fleetwood LL.D. Prebend<sup>y</sup> of Ely; this Monument erected to his Memory and engrav'd at her Expence, is most gratefully inscribed by James Bentham.

P. Lamborn sculp







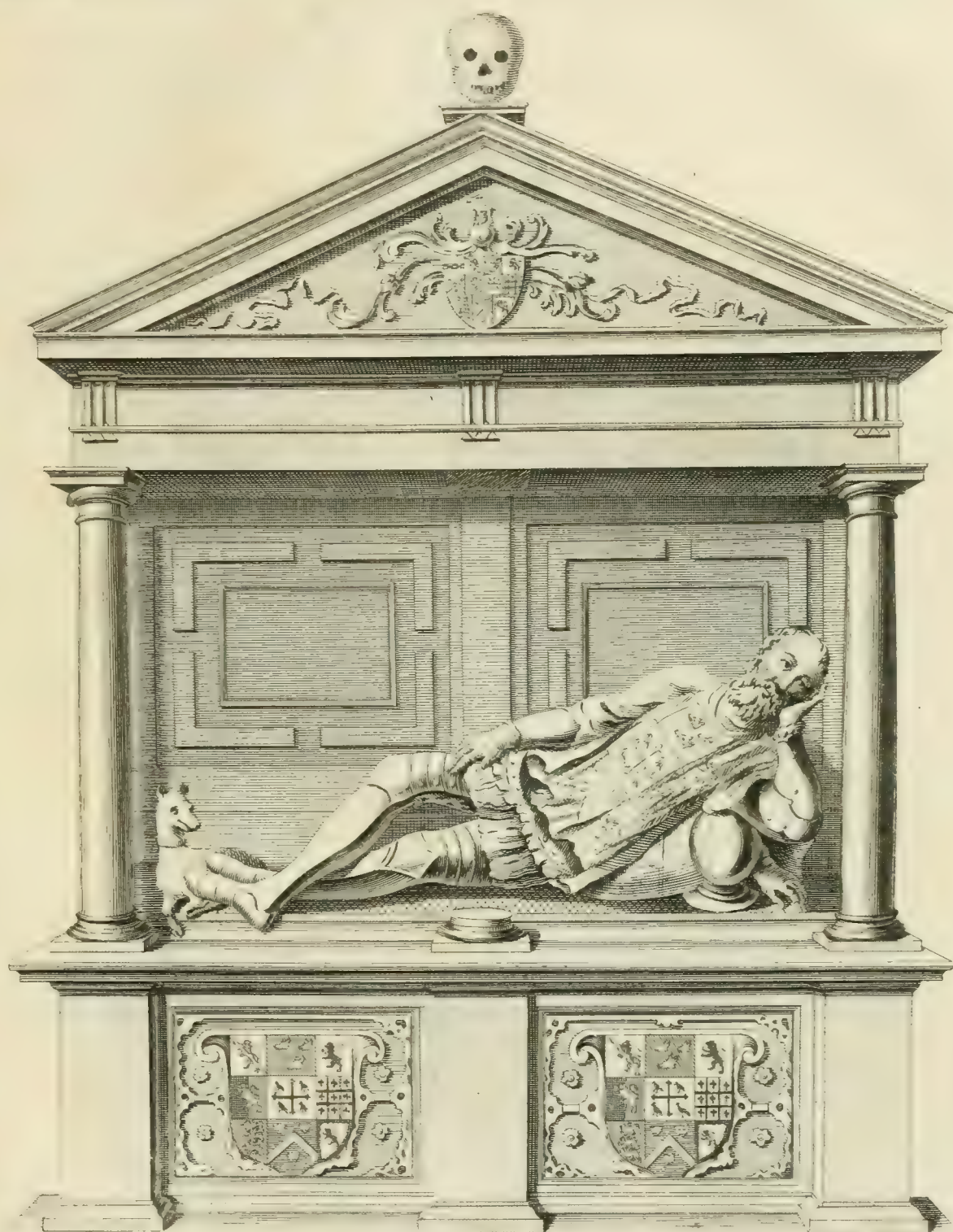
*Per admodum in Christo Patri ac Dño  
hoc Monumentum Dñi Johannis Tiptoft  
incisum, humillime & grato animo*



*Dño Johanni Egerton, Lichf. & Coventr. Epō  
Wigorn. Comitis, sumptibus suis in are  
D.D.D. Jacobus Bentham 1770.*



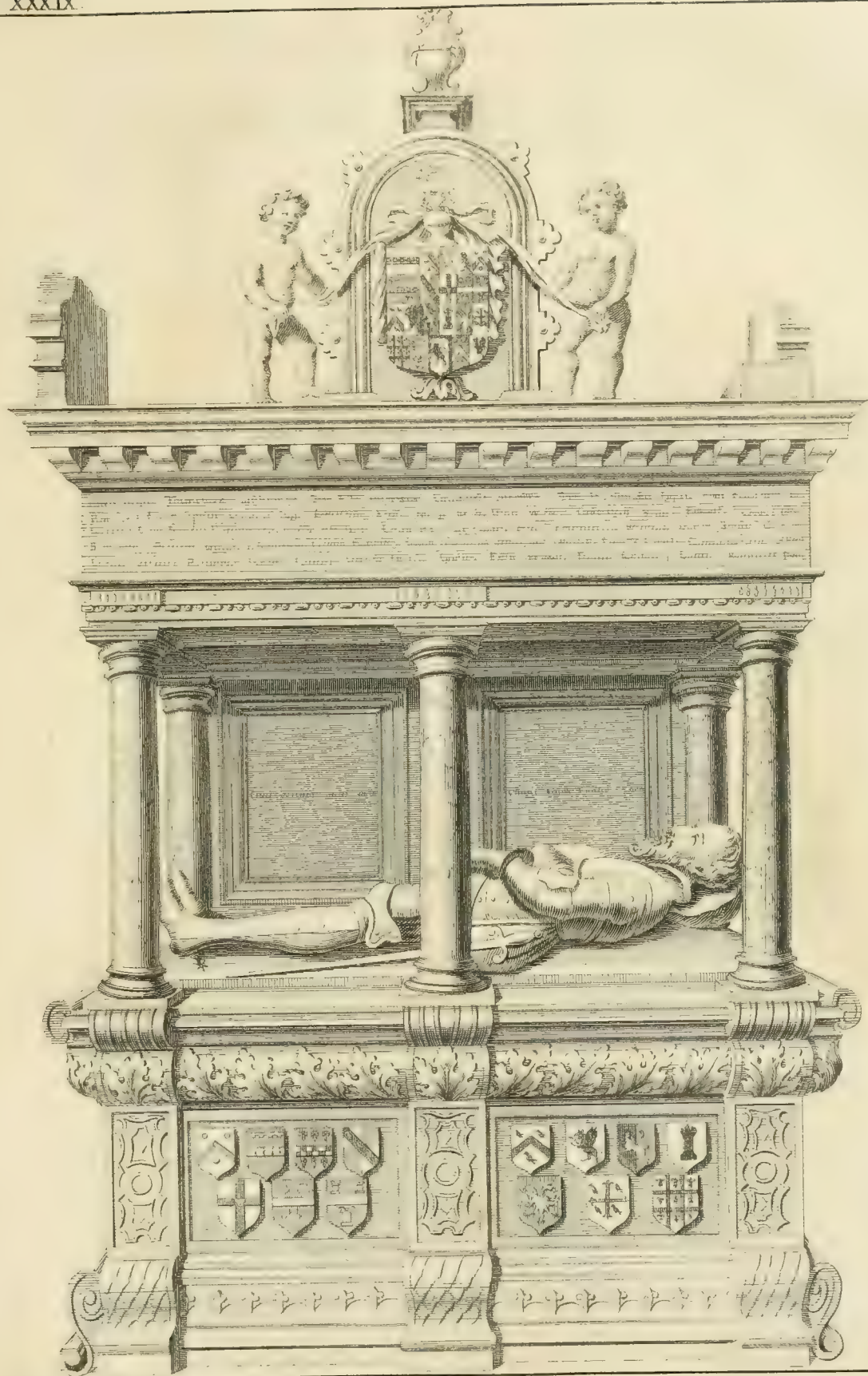




To Francis Wyatt Esq. High Bayliff of the Isle of Ely, this Monument of  
 Robert Steward Esq. engrav'd at his Expence, is most gratefully inscribed  
 by James Bentham.  
 1763







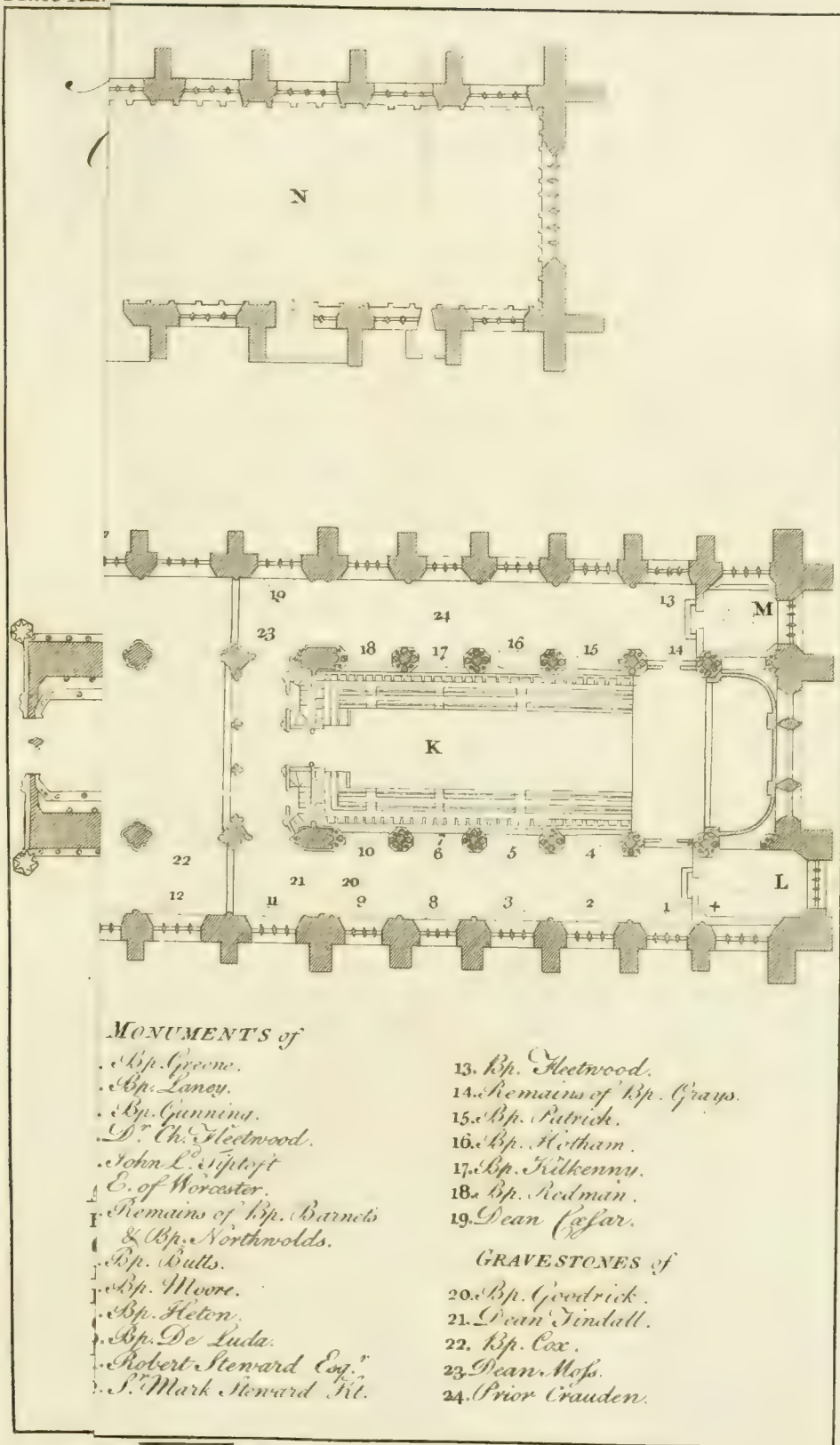
Viro Rev.<sup>do</sup> Thomae Doyly LL.D. Cano-  
 Marci Steward Militis sumptibus suis



nico Elien: hoc . Monumentum Dni  
 in aere incisum, grato animo D. D. D.  
 1766 Jacobus Bentham.

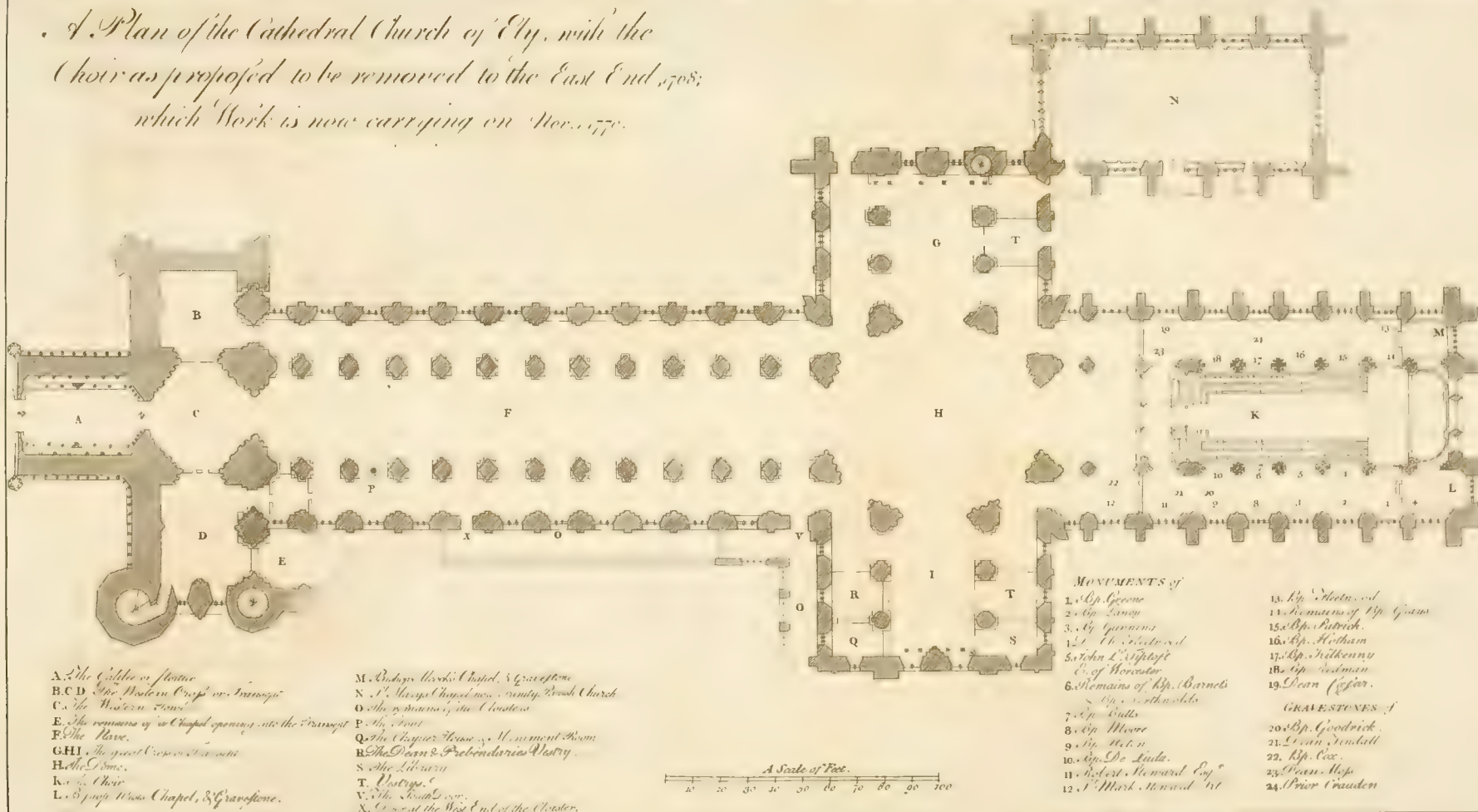








*A Plan of the Cathedral Church of Ely, with the  
Choir as proposed to be removed to the East End, 1708;  
which Work is now carrying on Nov. 1770.*



Viro Rev<sup>do</sup> Thomae Watkins A.M.  
Praeceptor, et in



Collegii Cathedralis Eboracensis  
Theologiae Praeceptor.

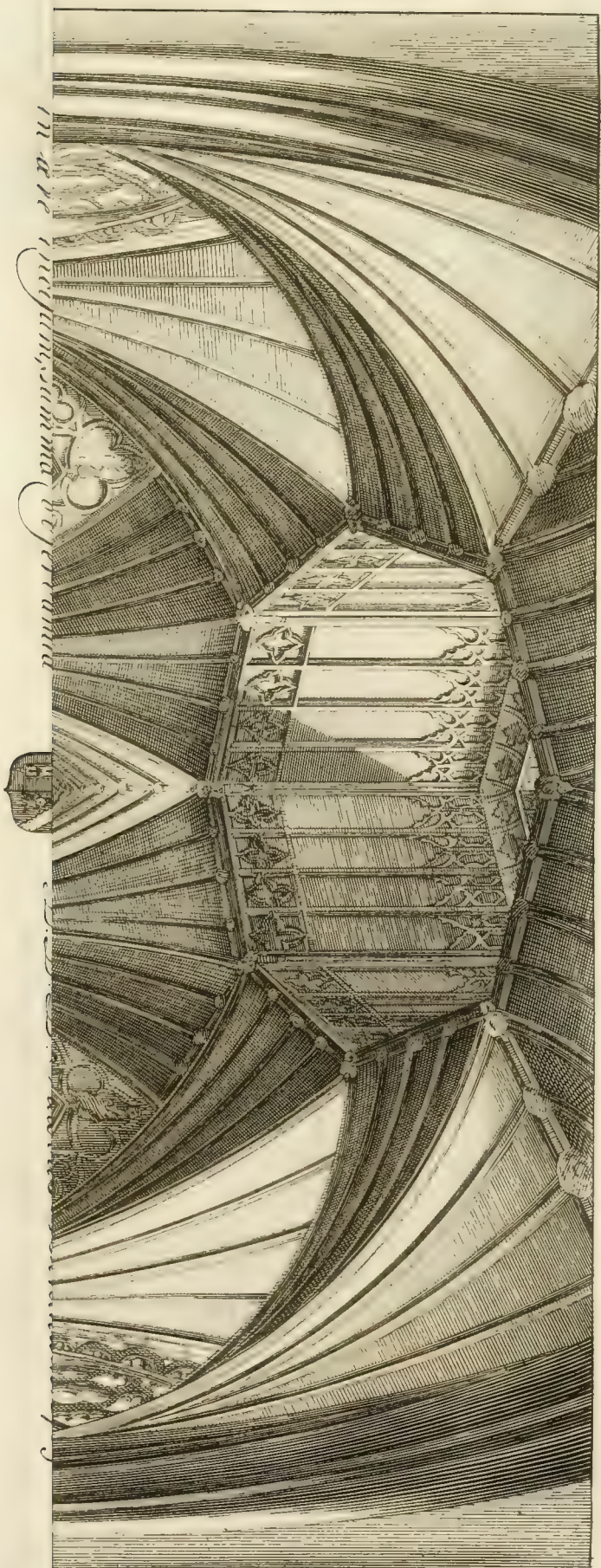
Ac non Carolo Nabson Cele.  
Armigero



Interioris Templi Conditoris

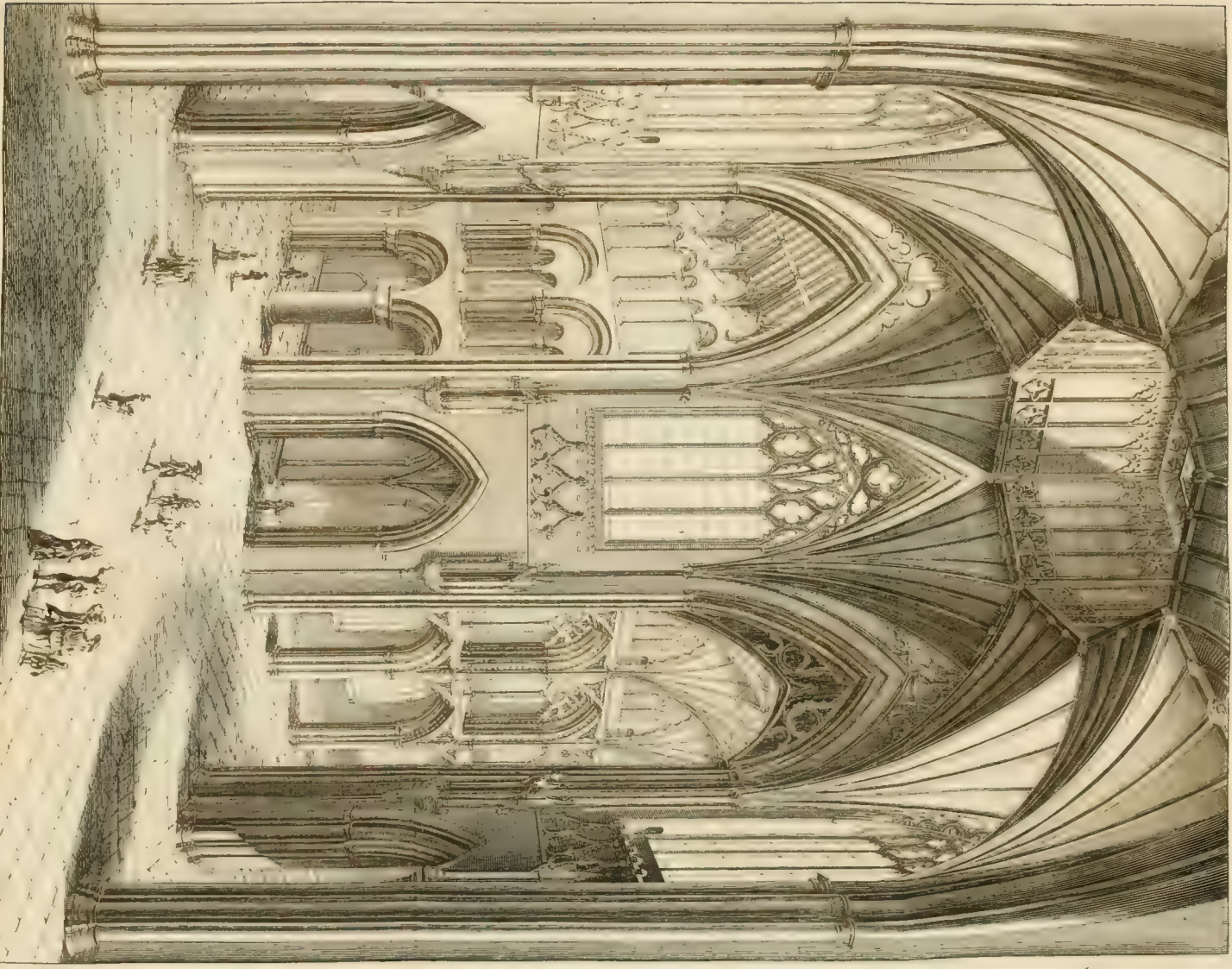
Hanc Tabulam, eorum impensis in aere incisam, grato animo D.D.D. Jacobus Bentham 1770.

*Thol Vhangulano ecclesie Henas: propactas interior:*



*Plate XII*

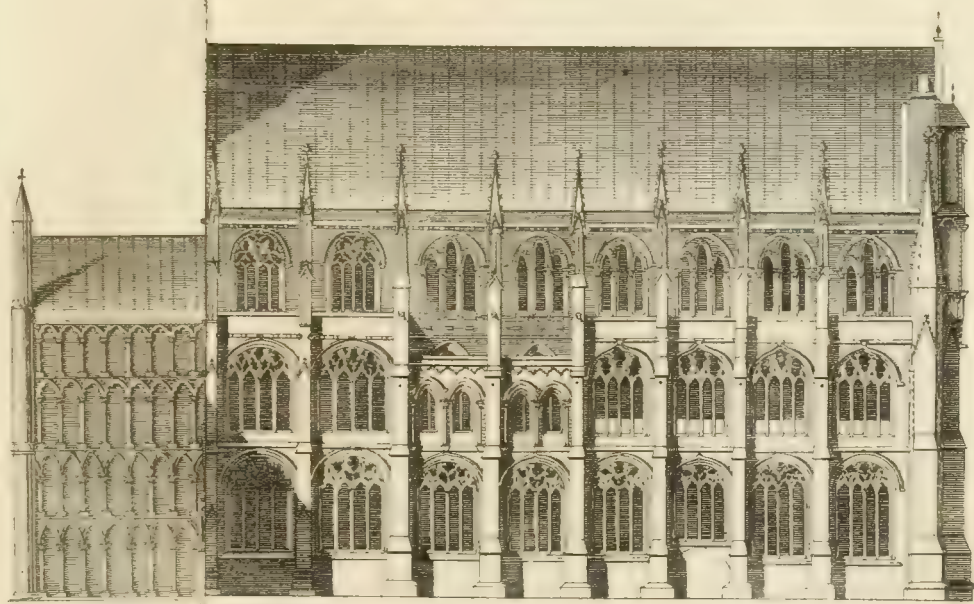




• Hic rēdūmān ſua ſpōnā: Vt nō pō  
• ſtūm: hūda ſpōmā a Phylſias nſtra  
• in nō rēdūmānā ſpōmā



• Hanc ſcēlā nūmā: Phylſias nſtra  
• hanc ſcēlā nūmā: Phylſias nſtra  
• Vt nō pō: Phylſias nſtra  
• in nō rēdūmānā ſpōmā 1703



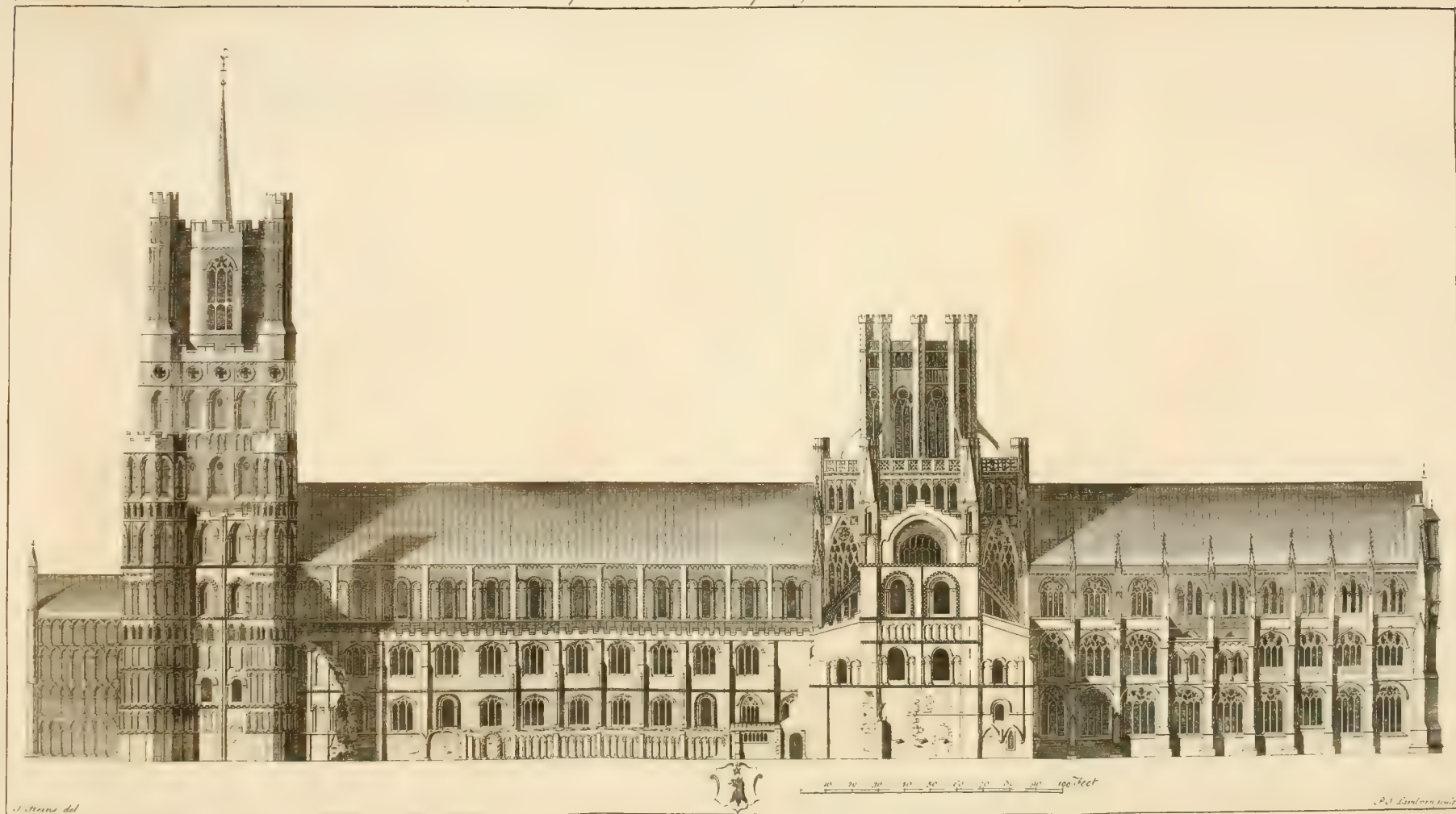
Feet.

J. Heins del.

P. J. Lambert sculp.

Tabulam h. Petri. Illius S. T. P. ejusdem Ecclesiae.  
nuper Deceui grato animo D. D. D. Jacobus Bentham.

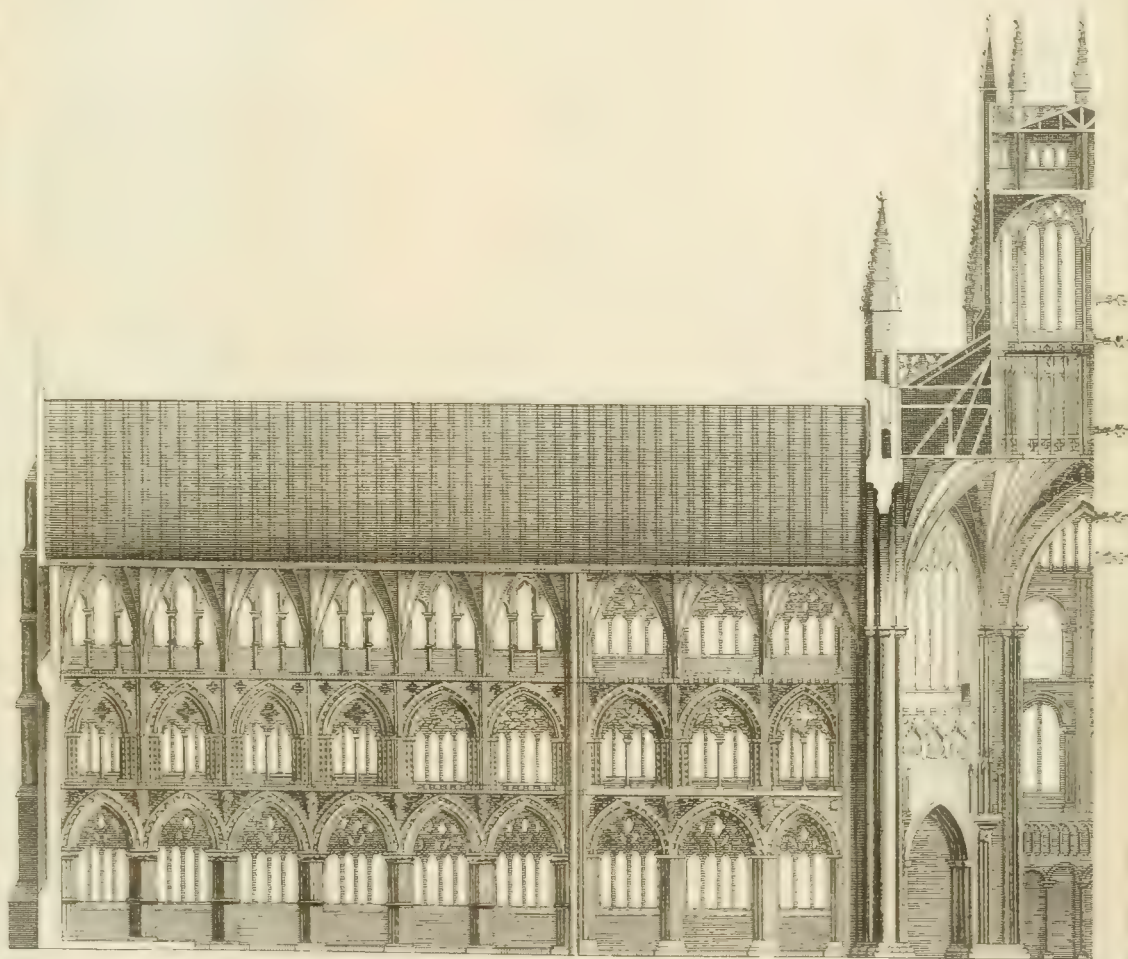




J. Meene del.

P. A. Lindeman fecit.

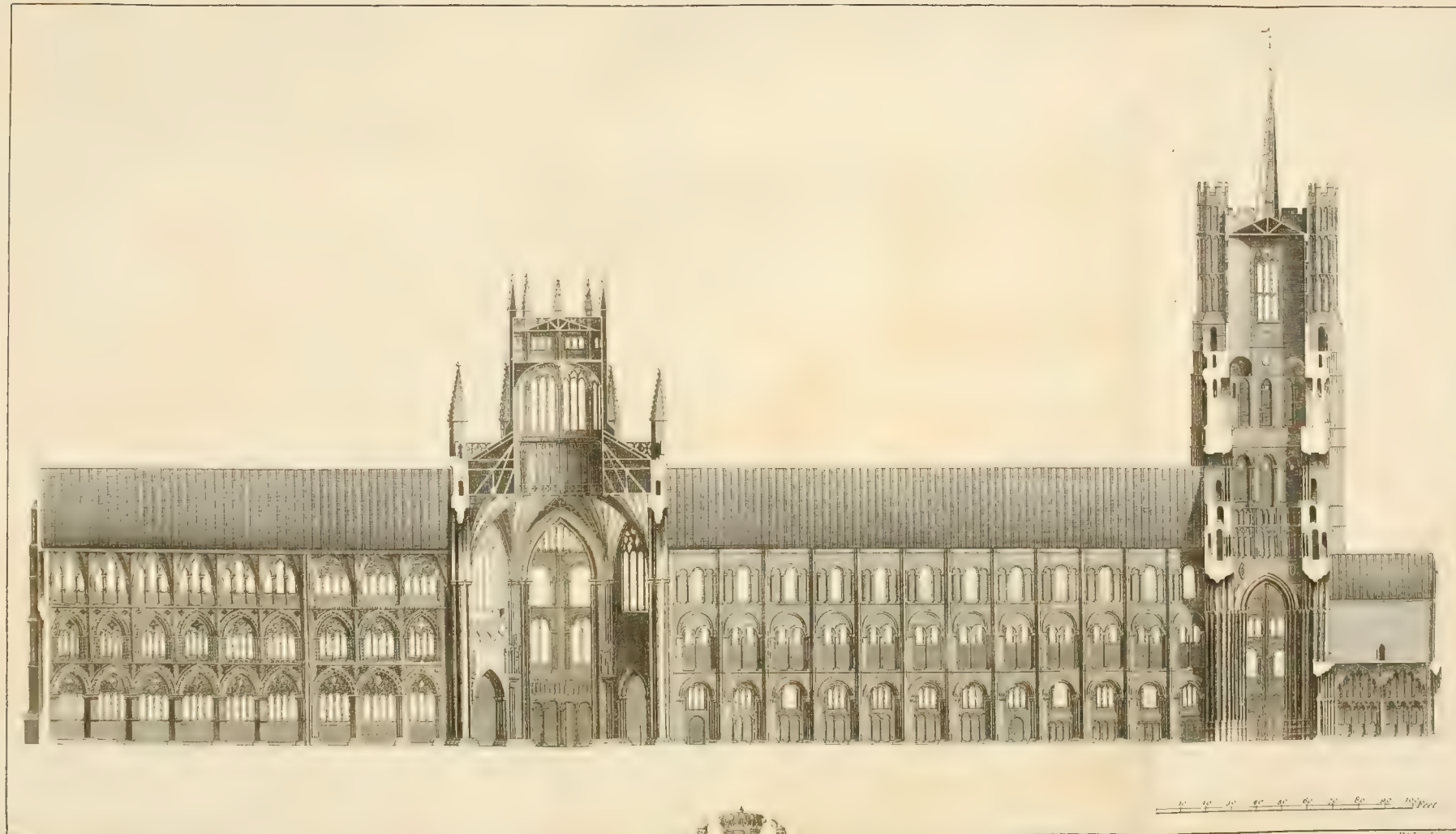
Tabulam hanc Orthographicam Ecclesiae Cathedralis Elyensis ad. Austrum hortatu Viri Reverendi Petri. Ulax, P. L. D. ejusdem Ecclesiae  
nuper Decani inceptam, sumptibus suis perfici curavit Carolus. Ulax. Vermiger. Filius ejus unicus, cui grato animo D. D. D. Jacobus Bentham  
1764



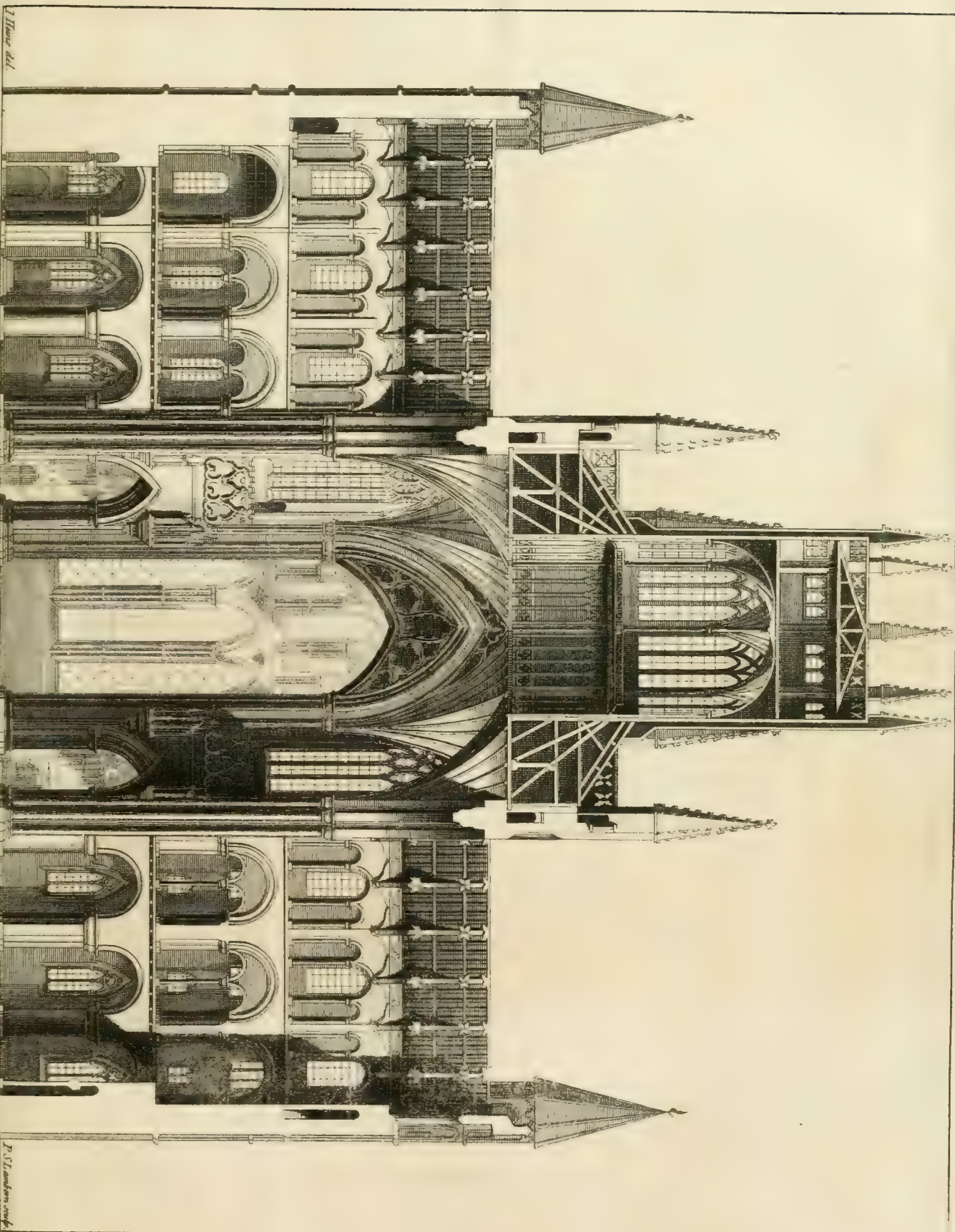
J. Hens del.

To the Right Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Thomas Earl of Kinnoul, Chancellor of the  
This Section of the Cathedral Church of Ely from E-





*To the Right Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Thomas Earl of Kinnoul, Chancellor of the Duchy & County Palatine of Lancaster; & one of his Majesty's most Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Privy Council  
 This Section of the Cathedral Church of Ely from East to West  
 engraved at his expense, is most gratefully inscribed by James Bentham 1782*



J. H. Stanger del.

P. Stanger sculp.

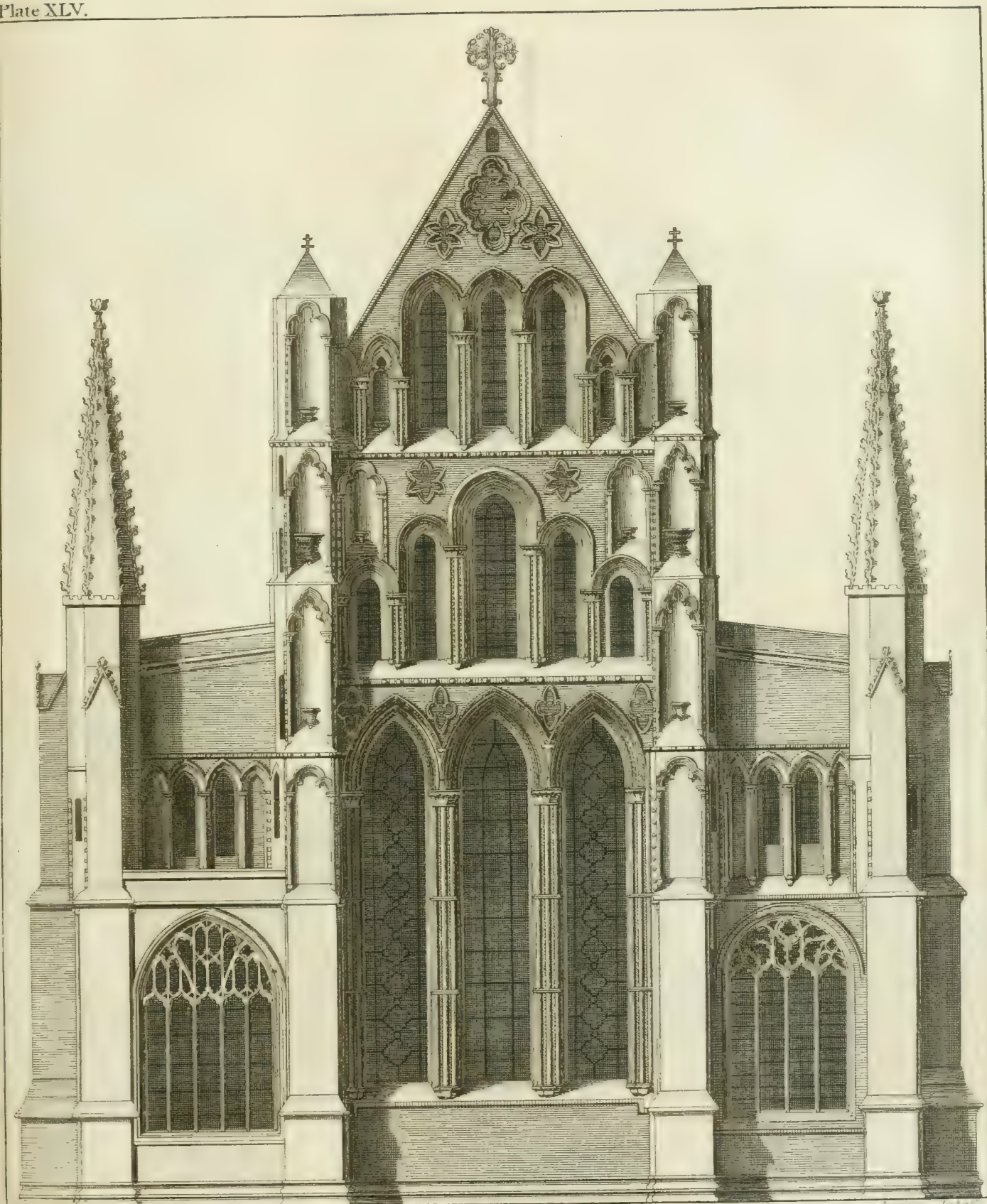
To James Henry Esq. one of the Commissioners of Trade  
Cambridge, this Plate engraved at his expense is most



& Plantations, &c. Memb<sup>r</sup> of Parliament for the Town of  
gratefully inscribed by James Benham Esq. 1766.







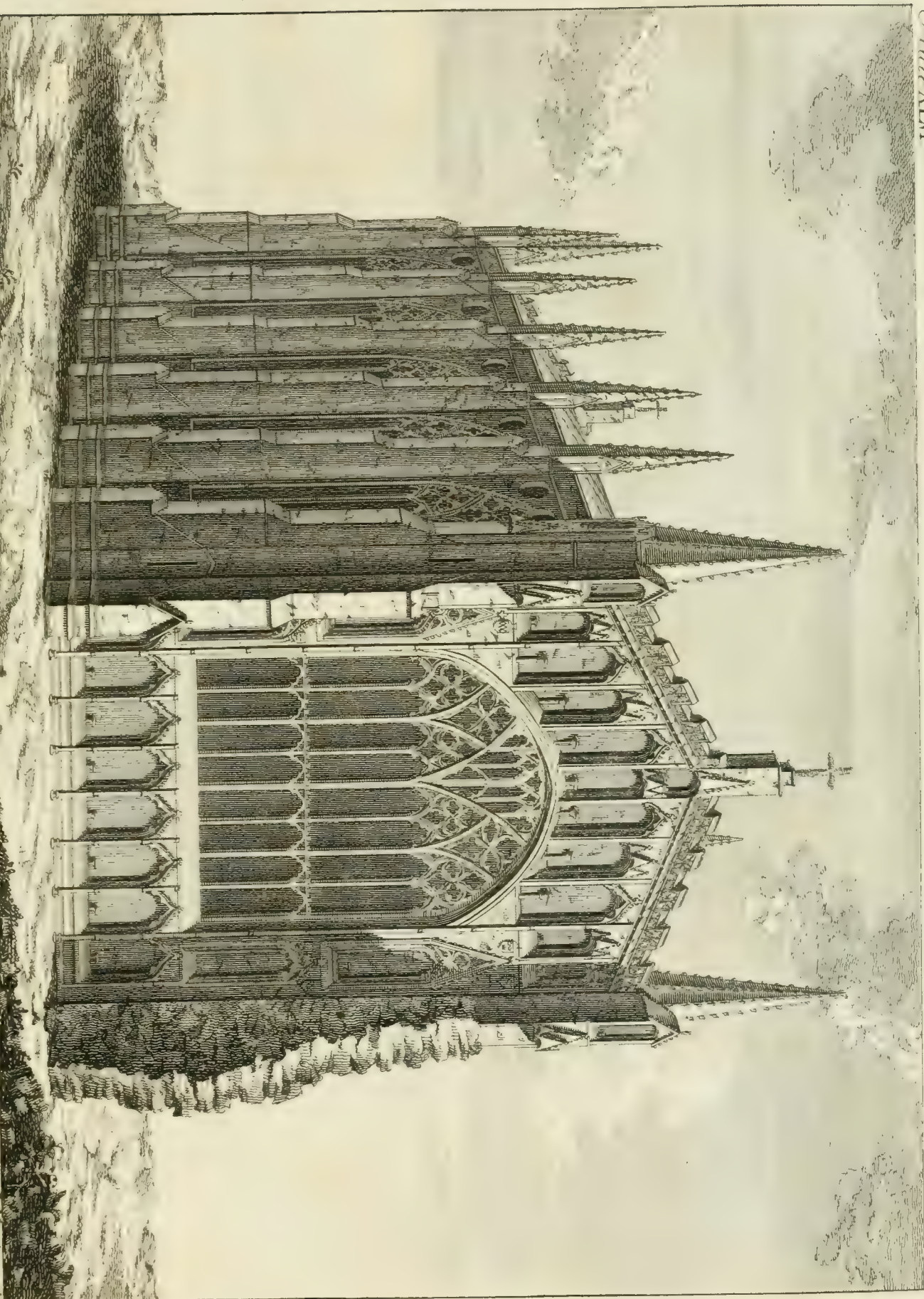
Rev. de Admodum in Christo Patri ac Dño  
Hanc Orientalem Ecclesie Cath. Eliensis  
humillime et grato animo



Dño. Richardo Trevor Dunelmensi Episcopo  
faciem Sumptibus suis in ære insculptam  
D. G. D. Jacobus Bentham 1707.







*View of St. Mary's Church, Norwich, Merchant, this Prospect of St. Mary's Chapel, now Trinity Parish Church in N.Y. engraved at his Expense, is most gratefully inscribed by James Boutwell... 1763*









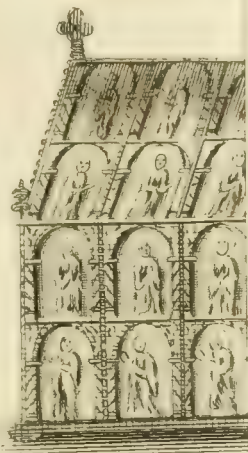
To the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> Philip Earl of Hardwicke,  
High Steward of the University of Cambridge,  
is most gratefully inscribed

Lord Lieutenant of the County, and  
This Plate Engraved at his Expense,  
by James Benthall, 1768.

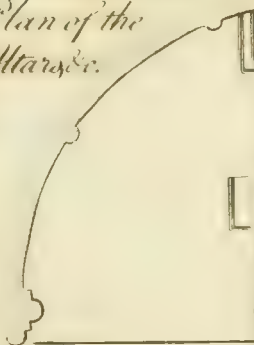




*The Shrine of*

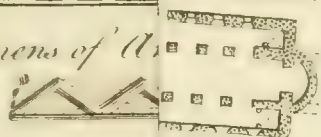


*Plan of the  
Altar &c.*



*ual Church.*

*Specimens of*



*ruins of  
Convent.*



*Capital of one of the*



*Socio. Seniore  
Tabulas  
Pentharn 1770.*

*West front of Ely Porta, or the  
Western Gate of the College. page 222.*

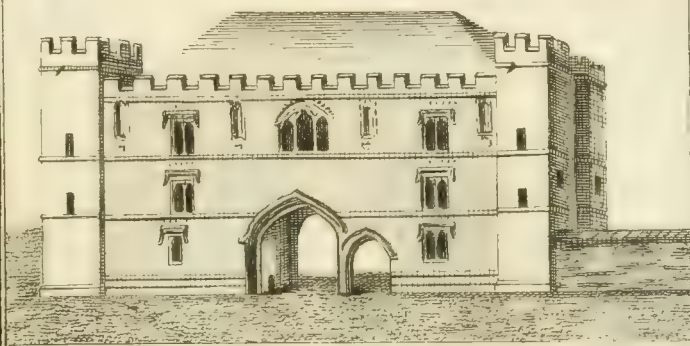
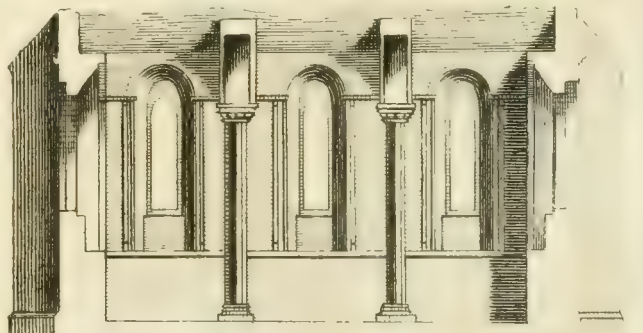


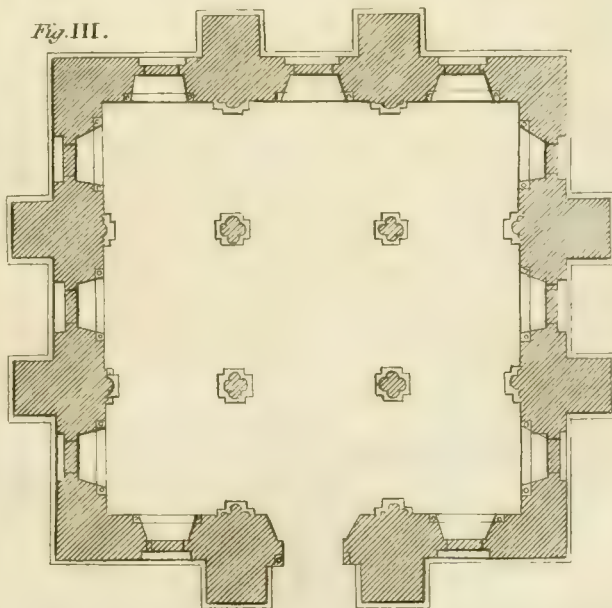
Fig. II.

*Plan & Section of the Old Chapter House.*



5 10 Feet

Fig. III.





The Shrine of S<sup>t</sup>. Etheldreda, page 17.



Plan of the Shrine.

Fig. II. Shrine, page 17.

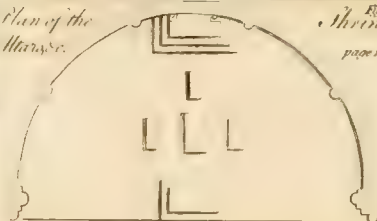
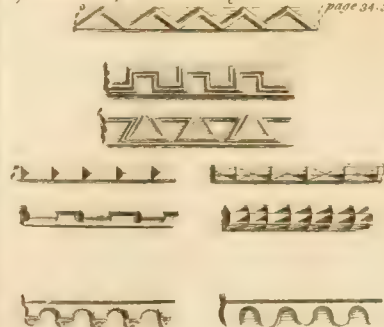


Fig. III. Specimens of Ancient Gothic Ornaments, page 34-35.



Capital of one of the Pillars in the Old Church.



Fig. I. Plan of the Cathedral Church as Originally Built.

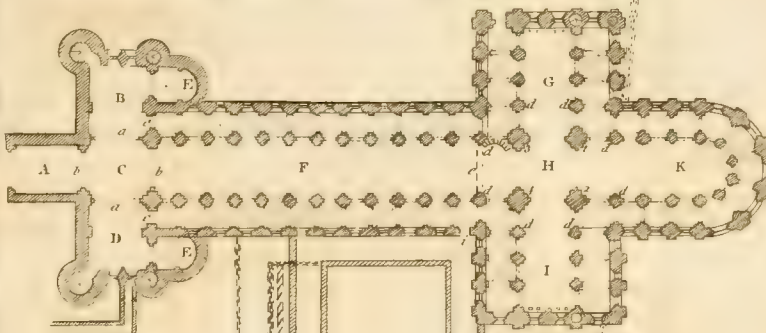


Fig. II. Cloister.

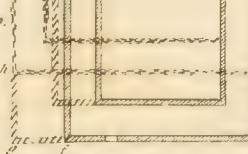


Fig. III. Old Chapter House.



Fig. IV.

Plan of the old Conventual Church.

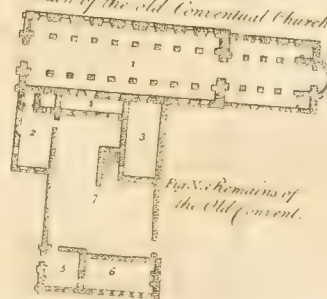


Fig. V. Schematics of the Old Convent.

West front of Ely Porta, or the Western Gate of the College, page 111.

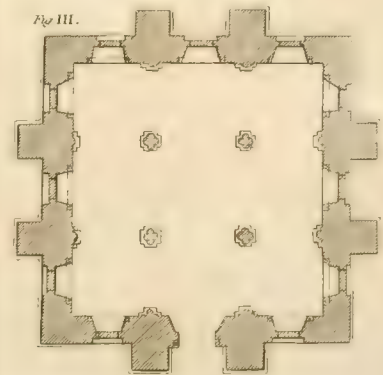


Fig. II.

Plan S. Section of the Old Chapter House.



Fig. III.



Viro Rev<sup>o</sup>. Johanni Allen S.T.B. Collegii S.S. Trin. Cantab. socio seniori  
 nec non Rectori de Torperley in Agro Eboracensi has Tabulas  
 sumptibus suis in arc. incisas, grato animo D.D.D. Jacobus Bentham 1770.

# A P P E N D I X

## T O T H E

### HISTORY and ANTIQUITIES of *ELX*.

#### NUMBER I.

*Carta Regis EADGARI de Institutione Abbatie Eliensis.*—Ex Autographo, penes Rev. et Doct. Carolum Maſon, S. T. P. 1766.

**O**Mnipotentis Dei cunctorum ſceptra regentis moderamine regum, immo totius ſeculi creatureque cuncte indiſſolubili regimine eque gubernantis habenas, ipſius nutu et gracia ſuffultus, Ego EADGARUS baſileus dilecte inſule *Albionis*, ſubditis nobis ſceptris *Scotorum, Cumbro- rumque*, ac *Brittonum*, et omnium circumcirca regionum quiete pace perfruens, ſtudioſus ſollicite de laudibus Creatoris omnium occupor addendis, ne noſtra inertia noſtrisque diebus plus equo ſervitus ejus tepeſcere videatur, ſed greges monachorum et ſanctimonilium hac noſtra tempeſtate, ipſo opitulante qui ſe nobiſcum uſque in finem ſeculi manere promittere dignatus eſt, ubique in regno noſtro deſertis monaſteriis antiquitus Dei ſamulatu deficiente nunc reviviſcente adſurgere cupimus ſub *Benedicti* Abbatis regula viventes, quatinus illorum precatu & vigente religione ſancta, ſervitus Dei, nos ipſum placatum rectorem habere queamus. Unde frequentes monitus venerabilis *Atheluuoldi* Epilcopi cordetenus pertrectans, cupio honorare hoc privilegio rebusque copioſis Monaſterium quod in regione *ELIG* ſitum diſcoſcitur, antiquitus ac Sancti *Petri* Apoſtolorum principis honore dicatum, decoratumque reliquiis & miraculis Alme Virginis *Ætheldrede*, cujus vita venerabilis nobis modernis hiſtoria *Anglorum* promitur, que etiam incorruptibili corpore haſtenus condita maſſoleo marmoreo albo perdurat. Locus denique predictus, deficiente ſervitio Dei, noſtra etate regali fiſco ſubditus erat, ſed a Secretis noſter *Atheluuoldus* Deique amator dioceſi *Uintonienſis* civitatis fungens, datis nobis ſexaginta caſſatis in villa que ab accolis *Heartingas* nuncupatur, mutuavit locum predictum cum appendiciis ejus, augmentavique mutuatiſſimi tres villas que his nominibus vocitantur *Meldeburna, Earmingaſord, Northuuold*, et ipſe ilico monachos meo conſilio et auxilio Deo fideliter regulari norma ſervientes perplures inibi collocavit, quibuſque *Brihtnothum* quendam ſapientem ac bene morieratum [*ſic*,] virum prepoſiti jure preſecit; Cui effectui admodum ego congaudens letabundus pro amore

Chriſti et Sancti *Petri*, quem patronum michi ſub Deo elegi, & Sancte *Ætheldrede* Virginis Deo dilecte, et ejus proſapie ſancte illic quieſcentis, et pro animabus patrum meorum regum antiquorum, augmentare largiter mutuatiſſimi illam hiſ donis, teſtibus conſiliariis meis, volo, hoc eſt, decem millia anguillarum que omni anno in villa que et *uuýllan* dicitur, pro expeditione redduntur, fratribus ad victualia modo et deinceps concedo, et intra paludes cauſas ſeculares duorum centuriatum, et extra paludes quinque centuriatum in *Uuichlauuan* in provincia *Orientalium Saxonum*, benigne ad fratrum neceſſaria ſanctiſſimo largior, quin etiam omnes cauſas ſeu correptiones tranſgreſſionum juſte legis in ſermonibus ſecularibus omnium terrarum ſive villarum ad Monaſterium predictum rite pertinentium, et quas in futurum eum Dei providentia loco preſato largitura eſt, ſive emptione ſeu donatione aut aliqua juſta adquiſitione. Stent cauſe ſeculares emendande tam clementi examine fratrum loco manentium victui vel veſtitui neceſſaria miniſtrantes, adhuc inſuper omnem quartum nummum rei publice in provincia *Grantaceafter* fratribus reddendum jure perpetuo cenſeo. Et ſit hoc privilegium liberum quaſi munus noſtrum Deo devote oblatum et ſanctis predictis, ad remedium animarum noſtrarum, ſicuti preſati ſumus, ut nullus Regum nec Principum aut ullius ordinis quiſlibet prepotens in poſterum obſtinata tyrannide aliquid horum infringere preſumat, ſi non vult habere omnipotentis Dei maledictionem et Sanctorum ejus et meam et patrum meorum pro quibus iſta omnia libera haberi volumus eterna libertate in eternum. Amen.

Hoc Privilegium hujus donationis et libertatis fecimus ſcribi Anno Incarnationis Domini noſtri Jeſu Chriſti Nongenteſſimo Septuageſimo, Indictione tertia decima, Anno Regni mei eque tertio decimo, in Villa Regali que famoſo vocabulo a ſolicolis *Uulſamere* nominatur, non clam in angulo, ſed ſub divo palam evidentiffime, ſcientibus totius Regni mei Primatibus, quorum quedam Nomina hic infra inferi ad teſtimonium in poſterum mandavimus.

Ego EADGARUS Rex animo benigno hoc largiendo Deo conceſſi, et regia ſublimate corroboravi †

Ego DUNSTAN Archiep's corroboravi †

\* A

Ego



Ego OSCYTEL Archiep's consolidavi †  
 Ego ATHELUUOLD Ep's confirmavi †  
 Ego ÆLFSTAN Ep's consignavi †  
 Ego OSULF Ep's confirmavi †  
 Ego UULFRIC Ep's adquevi †  
 Ego UUÿNSIGE Ep's corroboravi †  
 Ego ALFUUOLD Ep's confirmavi †  
 Ego ALUUOLD Ep's consolidavi †  
 Ego OSUUOLD Ep's adquevi †  
 Ego BÿRHTHELM Ep's confirmavi †  
 Ego EADELM Ep's consignavi †  
 Ego ÆLRIC Ep's consolidavi †  
 Ego UULFSIGE Ep's corroboravi †

ÆLFTHRÿTH Regina †	LEOFA m̃ †
ÆLFRIC Abb̃ †	BRIHTRIC m̃ †
ESCUUIG Abb̃ †	ÆLFSIGE m̃ †
OSGAR Abb̃ †	ULF m̃ †
ÆLFSTAN Abb̃ †	OSULF m̃ †
ÆTHELGAR Abb̃ †	HEANRIC m̃ †
CÿNEUUEARD Abb̃ †	HRINGULF m̃ †
THURCYTEL Abb̃ †	LEOFSTAN m̃ †
EALDRED Abb̃ †	OSLAC m̃ †
ORDBRIHT Abb̃ †	FRENA m̃ †
SIFERTH Abb̃ †	SIFERTH m̃ †
MARTIN Abb̃ †	LEOFRIC m̃ †
ÆTHELSTAN Dux †	EADRIC m̃ †
ÆLFHERE Dux †	UULFNOTH m̃ †
ÆLFHEAH Dux †	ÆLFSIGE ñ †
ORDGAR Dux †	ULFCYTEL ñ †
ÆTHELUUINE Dux †	HROOLD ñ †
OSLAC Dux †	THURSTAN m̃ †
MALCOLM Dux †	OSGOD m̃ †
BIRHTNOTH Dux †	GOTA ñ †
EADULF Dux †	FRITHEGIST ñ †
BIRHFERTH ñ †	THURFERTH m̃ †
EANULF ñ †	THURGOD m̃ †
ÆLFUINE ñ †	OSFERTH ñ †
ÆTHELUUEARD m̃ †	OSCYTEL m̃ †
ÆLFUINE m̃ †	SIFERTH ñ †
UULFSTAN m̃ †	THURCYTEL ñ †
ÆLFUUEARD m̃ †	FORNE ñ †
UULFGEAT ñ †	CNUT m̃ †
OSULF m̃ †	THURSTAN m̃ †
OSUUEARD m̃ †	THURCYTEL m̃ †

His igitur testibus et aliis compluribus de omnibus Dignitatibus et Primatibus regni mei hec constituta et peracta noscuntur, que etiam nostra usitata sermocinatione describi mandavimus hac eadem sceda, quo possint in auribus vulgi sonare, ne aliqua scrupulocitate admisceri videantur, sed Regia auctoritate seu potestate nobis a Deo donata omnis contradictio funditus adnulletur:

Gode ælmihtigum paxende ðe pæc &c.

## NUMB. II.

*Carta Regis EDWARDI Confessoris de Libertatibus Ecclesie Eliensis.*

EDWARDUS Dei gracia Rex Anglorum cunctis Christi fidelibus perpetuam in Domino salutem. Cum Rex et Dominus omnium Deus nullo indigens cuncta possideat, agit ineffabili qua hominem dilexit caritate, ut ex hiis que usui humano creata largiter ministrat, Ipse aliqua quasi donaria gratanter recipiat, quo se colentes ad sue servitutis intencionem devociore reddat, quos postmodum perpetua secum libertate regnare concedat; Qua servitutis intencione antiqui Patres succensi, sua primum Domino studuerunt impendere, postmodum se, mutantur terrenis celestia, temporalibus sempiterna. Quorum vestigia *Ædgarus* avus meus ac Predecessor sceptrigere potestatis diligenter subsequens, et exempla perfectius implens, *Elyense* Cenobium et alia, illud tamen egregie preter cetera restauravit, restaurans ditavit, ditans omnimoda libertate quietavit, consultus adjutusque sedula Sancti *Æthelwoldi* summonicione vel copiosa prediorum augmentacione; quod et Sancto *Dunstano* alacriter collaudante cunctisque Primatibus Regni privilegio firmatum est. *Æthelredus* quoque Pater meus sue gubernacionis tempore quedam predia eidem loco contulit, prioremque libertatem sue suorumque concessionis privilegio solidavit. — Horum ego *Edwardus* Dei gracia successor licet indignus, cum in hiis devotam circa Dei ecclesiam, religionem vel religiose devocionis operacionem longe dispar conspicio, veneranda eorum Statuta nequaquam infringere presumo, sed fortiter quantum in mea efficacia est, defensare, et utcumque augere desidero; unde et prefato Cenobio villam nomine *Lakingehi* firme et hereditarie subicio, quo illorum aliquo modo jungar consorcio, et Sanctorum inibi multiplici meritorum laude quiescentium amplifcer suffragio; Libertatem ab eisdem, ut diximus, restitutam, ab ipsa autem Regina Virgine Sanctissima prius habitacione possessam, possessione sanctificatam, sanctificacione venerabilem factam, inviolatam manere et omnimode provehendam censeo, quod et privilegii attestacione, meorumque consensu Fidelium stabile presentibus et futuris pronuncio. Summam ergo eorum que illo loco hoc nostro adjacent tempore, vel quali legum consuetudine, nominatim subiecta monstrabimus descripcione. In Comitatu *Granteceffer*, ipsa *Insula* cum duobus Centuriatibus et omnibus appendiciis; Extra, *Swafham*, *Horningesey*, *Dittune*, *Haukestone*, *Neutone*, *Stapelford*, *Schelford*, *Trippelawe*, *Meldeburne*, *Erningesford*, *Grantedene*, *Stewechworth*, *Balesham*, *Fulburne*, *Tewersham*, *Wesley*, *Trumpitone*, *Wrattinge*, *Smithwelle*, *Dittone*,



*Dittone, Hardwyk, Middeltune, Impetone, Cotenham, Wyvelingham, Omnisque Quartus Numerus Rei publice in Provincia Grantecester, et alique terre in ipsa Villa. — In Comitatu Suffolch, Hertest, Glamesford, Hecham, Ratesdene, Drenchestone, Neddinge, Berkinges, Bercham, Wetheringsete, Liveremere, Acholt, Wychelaue* Quinque et dimidium Centuriatum, *Sutburne, Meltone, Kingestone, Ho, Stoke, Debehem, Brithwelle, Ordebruge, Brandune. — In Comitatu Northfolch, Felteuwell, Breggeham, Methelwolde, Crokestone, Watinge, Mundesford, Berc, Wesfeld, Finceham, Northwelle, Walepol cum appendiciis, Merham, Derham, Thorp, Puleham. — In Comitatu Excesse [1. Essexie,] Hadesstoke, Litelbirih, Stratlay, Due Rothinges, Ratendune, Amerdene, Brochesene, Estre, Fanbruge, Terlinges. — In Comitatu Hereford, Hadham, Hethfeld, Keleshelle. — In Comitatu Huntendune, Spaldwyk cum appendiciis, Sumeresham, Colne, Bluntesham.* Hec et horum appendicia sive maiora sive minora, insuper omnia a quocumque adiecta vel adicienda bonorum testimonio possessa, cum omni Sacha et Socha, sine aliqua excepcione secularis vel ecclesiastice iusticie, illi Monasterio damus, data quietam clamamus, eadem qua Sancti viri illud glorificaverunt libertate, quo neque Episcopus, neque Comes, neque alicujus exactionis Minister, sine licencia vel advocacione Abbatis et Fratrum ullo modo se presumat intromittere, vel rem Sancte aliquo modo inquietare. Sitque in eorum, ut semper fuit, arbitrio, a quocumque potissimum elegerint ordinari, vel sua sanctificari Episcopo. Convenienti equidem dispositione Regina hac utitur libertate, que Regem et Regnum Mundumque florentem deferens, *Insulam* pro dotacio possedit, ubi sponso suo Christo integerrime servivit, quod et caro florens in tumulto, veste etiam incorrupta ostendit: Hec quemcumque voluit Episcopum affecit, sed Sanctus *Wilfridus Eboracensis* Archiepiscopus familiarior ei existit, qui eam cum suo cetu Virginum consecravit. Cum autem multo posteriori tempore, servicio Dei pene deficiente, *Ædgarus* restauraret Cenobium, posito ibi grege Monachorum, Abbates prefecit; quos Sanctus *Æthelwoldus* et Sanctus *Dunstanus* Sanctusque *Oswaldus* ordinaverunt, et quamdiu vixerunt quasi suis consuluerunt. Post hos quosque meliores vinculo caritatis sibi adtrahebant, e quibus aliquos secum in Monasterio retinebant. Harum ergo consuetudinum cum non fuisset Constitutor, malo esse Testis et fidelis Conservator, quam perfidus et detestabilis Everfor, Dominum summum Salvatorem invocans, ut qui hec Constituta Sanctorum nostrumque infregerit testamentum, Sanctorum et Omnipotentis, nisi peniteat, incurrat odium, induens malediccione sicut vestimentum, dum *Jude* emulatur opprobrium.

NUMB. III.

*Privilegium Papæ VICTORIS II. de Libertatibus Ecclesiæ Eliensis.*—E duobus Libris MSS. Fol. Notat. A. et M. in Ædibus Dom. Episcopi Elien. Holbourn.

**V**ICTOR Episcopus, Servus Servorum Dei, *Ædwardo* Regi *Anglorum* filio dilectissimo, cunctisque Principibus regni salutem et Apostolicam benedictionem. Privilegium Apostolica et Romane Ecclesiæ auctoritate antiquitus conscriptum et multorum sepius attestacione auctorizatum super cenobium *Eliense*, quod gloriosi sancte Ecclesiæ Patres pio affectu, larga manu constituerunt, vestre pie petitioni succincte renovamus, ac perpetua stabilitate firmamus, immo firmatum conclamamus. Mandamus ergo et jure Apostolico precipimus liberam esse Ecclesiam, et omnia que ibi continentur vel adjacent vel adiciuntur, Cellis, terris, agris, pascuis, paludibus, silvis, venationibus, aquis, piscationibus, libertatibus, serviciis, debitis, decimis, censu, capitationibus, legibus, consuetudinibus, causarum discussionibus, correptionibus, emendationibus sive ecclesiasticis sive secularibus, et omnino quecumque scriptis vel testamentis ipsius loci vel testimonio bonorum hominum rememorari possunt, que a regibus vel ab aliquo fidelium Sanctis in illo Monasterio collata vel concessa sunt, quo nemo ex hiis subtrahere vel diminuere aut disperdere aliqua occasione, iudicio vel potestate presumat, nec Episcopus, nec alicujus ordinis minister se intromittat. Siquis vero malignitatis spiritu commotus hanc libertatem loci illius infringere, nostrumque privilegium contempnere vel abicere voluerit, a Deo et ab omnibus Sanctis ejus sit condemnatus, et a Nobis in quantum licet excommunicatus, et a consortio omnium fidelium seperatus nisi resipiscat. Fiat, fiat; Placet, placet; Laudatis, laudamus. Hoc sit stabile. Fiat, fiat, fiat.

NUMB. IV.

*Remarks on the TABULA ELIENSIS, Plate XIII.*

**T**HERE are few pieces of English Antiquity that have afforded more amusement to the Curious, than the Representation given of certain Knights and Monks of Ely; taken, as it is said, from a Painting formerly to be seen in the great Refectory of the Monastery, now the Deanery, of Ely. Several Copies of it have been published: One by Fuller, [Church History, pag. 169.] communicated to him by Sir Simon Archer. Another is at Oxford, of Dugdale's Collection in the Ashmolean Museum. [MS. 6501. II. F. 2.] — That from whence my



Copper-plate Print is taken, is an ancient Painting, lately in possession of Dr. Knight Prebendary of Ely, and now by his Gift remaining in the Palace of Ely, and is often quoted by the learned Dr. Stukeley in his account of the Origin and Usefulness of Heraldry, under the title of *Tabula Eliensis*. [Palæographia Britan. N° ii. pag. 120.] By which it appears, that the Knights and Gentlemen there represented were some of the principal Officers in William the Conqueror's Army, and of Families that made the greatest figure at that time, their Descendants still bearing the same Arms.

The great difficulty is to determine about what time these Arms were first put up in the Common Hall of the Monastery. That they were put up and painted there in the reign of the Conqueror, seems to be intimated by a MS. lately in the King's Library [MS. 18. C. 1. 3.] now in the British Museum, entitled '*Story found in the Isle of Ely.*' In which fragment of History the account given of this matter is as follows: — 'Then the Captaines layeng their heades together,' [N.B. in the same MS a few lines before, it is said, the Monks consulted together to surrender the Isle, and went to the King at Warwick,] 'thought it good to sue to the King for mercie. Whereupon Messengers are dispatched to the Kinges court which was then at Warwick, carrying to the King rich treasure for the appeasing of his wrath for their offence. With this present the King is pacified, yet under this condicion, that during his displeasure they should at the charge of the Monastery entertayne with meate, drinke, and lodging 40 of the Kinges Souldiours; for he feared lest that whilst he bent his forces against the untamed Scotts, the Isle of Elie, being of force to be feared, should to the endangering of his state, revolt againe. These Souldiours come with their retinewe, of whom every one is put to one of the chiefeest Monkes, even as a guest to his host. But the King appointed that Brithnodus the Steward should set the Souldiours and the Monkes together, one with another, at meate in their common Hall of the Monastery. — What should I use many words? — The Hostes made exceeding much of their Guestes, and the Guestes of their Hostes. At length when the cyvill broyles were cleane extinguished, and all indevours to the Kinges mind atteyned, his rage being swaged, he was content to ease the Monkes of this yoke wherewith their pride was nowe sufficiently abated, and called these Souldiours awaye againe to be sent into Normandy to repress the pride of his insolent Sonne Robert, which at that tyme haveng the raynes at libertye, made great hurly burly there. These Souldiours were sorry to depart; but our Monkes (marvel it is to tell,) did not only with

'teares bewail the departure of their deere fellows the noble Souldiours, but also with howling fearfull to be heard, did cry out beating their brestes voyd of all hope. — When these Gentlemen should departe, all our Monkes, (whose number was great,) wearing copes did curteously bring them as farre as Hadenham in procession with singing, ——— and with all the solemnitie that could be. And when they were returned home, they very curiously caused every mans Armes to be painted upon the walls of the Hall where they dined and supped, for a perpetual memory of them. Which Armes have been from time to time, from predecessors to successors, from antiquity to this present, diligently kept and polished.' — Fuller has the like account in his Church History, p. 169, seemingly a different translation of the same Author.

In order to give some light into this affair, it will be proper to observe, that in the year 1070, the 4th year of his reign, the Conqueror made all the lands belonging to the Church, subject to Knights-service, *i. e.* to be held of him by the service of finding such a number of Soldiers as he was pleased to impose on them, to be in readines whenever he should have occasion for them: and it should seem from the above account, that the Abby of *Ely* was settled at Forty Knights-fees, at the time that the Abbot was with the King at Warwick to treat about the Surrender of the Isle. Indeed it was usual with the King to quarter his Soldiers on the Monasteries in many places of the Kingdom, before Knights-Service was fixed and imposed on the Church; which served the purpose both of saving the expence of maintaining his Army, and also of having them in readines to suppress any insurrections of the people. — Now on taking the Isle of *Ely* by force in the year 1071, he went to the Monastery, and the Abbot and Monks being under his displeasure, he placed therein a sufficient number of Soldiers to keep the Monks in awe; and these were designed, together with those left at Aldrey-Castle at the same time, to defend the Isle, and keep possession of it till all those disturbances were over; — but are not to be considered as the Soldiers that the Monastery was to find by their tenure of Knights-service, which were fixed at forty; but only as a garrison that he placed in the Isle to serve the present purpose, till peace was settled. How long the King kept this garrison in the Isle, is uncertain; probably it was withdrawn when the King had fixed Theodwin in the Abby; for then, having an Abbot to his mind, and one that he could trust, there would be the less occasion for it, as he had one present on the place to take care of his interest.

That these Arms were put up in the reign of the Conqueror, will hardly be allowed by those who



who assert, that Hereditary or Family Arms were not in use before the reign of Henry II. or Henry III, and who observe likewise that in the same Family the Sons oftentimes used different Arms from those their Fathers had, till about Henry III. when Arms became hereditary, descending from Father to Son, and were made use of as *Family-Cognizances*. — However, since it is allowed, that personal Arms, Cognizances, or Ornamental Distinctions of particular persons on their Arms, were in use in the time of the Conqueror, it does not appear quite improbable, but that these very Arms or Cognizances might be the same that were used by those Knights, to whom they are attributed.

The title of the Painting from whence my Print is taken, gives us the year 1087, as if the Knights were placed there that year: — but that is certainly a mistake, and probably was occasioned by the King's ordering, in the year 1086, just before he left *England*, the same number of Soldiers to be provided for by the Monastery, in the time of Abbot Simeon; who accordingly procured such of his Tenants, and others that were willing to enter into his Service, and placed them in the Monastery; where they were all in the year 1087, provided with meat and drink, and had their stipends paid them by the Abbot, to be in readiness when the King should have occasion for them.

I therefore apprehend, that it is to some time during the Administration of Godfrey, that we are to refer what is mentioned concerning this ancient Painting. This Godfrey was a Monk, who had been brought over from Normandy with Theodwin, whom King William had promoted to the Abby of Ely, and under him having had the chief management of the affairs of the Monastery, was upon the death of Theodwin ordered by the King to take upon himself the Administration of the Abby, till the King should fix on a Successor: He continued to govern the Monastery in all respects as if he had really been Abbot, almost seven years. It is probable that upon the Death of Theodwin, when the King sent down to Ely Eudo the Sewer, William de Belfou, and Anger his great Officers, to take an inventory of the Moveables of that Church, in the presence of the Sheriffs; he likewise ordered these 40 Knights and Gentlemen to attend them, and to effectuate his commands; these were Soldiers of fortune, and some of his followers, for whom he had not as yet made any settled provision; who therefore for the present were each of them placed with a Monk, as his associate in the Common Hall, to be maintained at the Charge of the Abby, till he should otherwise provide for them. Godfrey is the first mentioned in the Catalogue of the Monks, being the Chief, and Administrator of the Abby at

that time; with whom is placed Opsal Master of the King's military Engines: — no Abbot of the Monastery is mentioned, because there was none; for had there been one, some of the Knights, being of eminent rank and quality, would no doubt have been placed with the Abbot. — It is probable that the King kept the Monastery the longer time vacant, that the Knights might be the better maintained. — The time that these Knights were withdrawn likewise fixes it to the time of Godfrey's Administration; for they were called away and sent into Normandy on the insurrection of Robert the King's Son, who in the year 1077 was endeavouring to seize the Dukedom of Normandy. — Fuller thinks that these Arms were set up in Ely Hall, (as may appear, says he, by inserting the Coat of Robert the 14th Bishop of Ely,) about the year 1306. But no conclusive argument can be drawn from that circumstance, that they were then *first* put up; but that they were probably renewed in that Bishop's time; agreeably enough to the account given in the above MS. 'that they have been from time to time, from predecessors to successors, from antiquity to this present, diligently kept and polished.'

2.

*Further Remarks on the TABULA ELIENSIS, by the Rev. Mr. Cole Rector of Blechley, Bucks.*

I Look upon the Ely Tablet as a great curiosity and valuable piece of Antiquity; however, I cannot by any means think it near the Date it carries in it's front; and that for many reasons. In the first place, the Characters do not seem to be above 3 or 400 years old, no more than the Form of the Figures. Mr. Walpole in his *Anecdotes of Painting in England*, vol. 1. p. 24. seems to place the utmost extent of Oyl-Painting to the 14th Century. The pointed or rather rounded shape of the Helmets worn by the Knights, is also a proof that the Picture was painted not before the 14th Century, when Helmets of that fashion were first introduced in order to parry off the force of a Sword or other Instrument the better, by sliding aside, than the elder ones of a flat form at top, used before that time; as Father Monfaucon very rightly observes, in his *Antiquitez de la Monarchie Francoise*, vol. 2. p. 286. Besides, the shape of the Shields or Coats of Arms, if they are made like those in the original picture, betray it to be of a more Modern Date still: for that shape, rounded towards the bottom, was introduced in the 15th or 16th Century; whereas the form of an old shield in Edw. 3d's time was almost triangular, with a narrow point at bottom: the very utmost extent of antiquity that can be allowed to this Picture; but I think the Letters and Characters will



will reduce it lower.\* As to the difficulty of the time of bearing Coat Armour as a distinction for Names and Families, in my opinion, that will not much affect the Authenticity either of the Fact, or the Picture: for it is only supposing the general History of so many Knights being hospitably entertained at Ely, and agreeing well with their Entertainers, to be true; and one may easily conceive such a fact to be handed down, either by Writing, Painting, or Tradition, to their Successors, with the Names, both of Monks and Knights; and allowing that Coat Armour was not yet introduced, as I think it was not, notwithstanding what Dr. Stukeley says to the contrary; yet in a Century after, when it became much the fashion, it is most natural to suppose, that the grateful Monks would add the Family Arms of each particular Knight, as was then made use of, to enliven their Picture, and be an encouragement for those Families to whom the Arms belonged, to be Benefactors to the Convent. It seems to be agreed on all hands, that what we now call Coat Armour, as an hereditary distinction of Families, was introduced not before the middle of the 12th Century, after the Second Croisade: though perhaps some few instances, rather of Devices than Arms, may be produced as high as the Conquest; yet we can never suppose, with any kind of probability, that these 40 Coats were born by the several Knights, to whom they seem appropriated, so early as 1087: although it is notorious that almost every Coat was born by the Family or Name as mentioned on the Table: from whence we must conclude that the Table or Picture, with these different Arms, was devised or painted many years after the transaction it was to represent happened. It is no difficult matter to account for these old Knights fondness for their Landlords the Monks of Ely: they lived on the Fat of the Land, and knew when they were well. That they were much at their ease, is highly probable from this Distic, which you may have overlooked in Fuller, Book 6. p. 299, who records, that Ely put down all the Abbeyes for Feasting: his words are these; ‘Of all Ab-

‘bountiful Feast-making; the vicinity of the  
‘Fens affording them plenty of Flesh, Fish and  
‘Fowle, at low rates. Hereupon the Poet,

‘Prævisis aliis, Eliensia Festa videre,  
‘Est, quasi prævisa nocte, videre diem.  
‘When other Feasts before have been,  
‘If those of Elie last be seen,  
‘Tis like to one who hath seen Night,  
‘And then beholds the Day so bright.

But to be serious: I really look upon this old Picture to be one of our most antient pieces of Painting, and highly deserving the honour you have done it, by having it engraved. When I was at Ely in 1759, I was the more desirous of looking at the Ely Tablet hung up in the Palace, and taking a Copy of it, as Dr. Stukeley in his loose, vague and supercilious manner, has in his 2<sup>d</sup>. part of *Origines Roystonianæ*, p. 120, &c. very imperfectly, not to say, absurdly and falsely, given part of it, as he pretends, from the Tablet of Ely itself: but how justly, any one that will be at the pains to collate the one with the other, may easily judge. If he mangles, falsifies and disfigures other monuments, which pass through his hands in the same manner he has done this, certain I am that no great stress can be laid on his Authority. There are also 2 other printed Accounts of this curious Tablet, the one given us by Dr. Fuller in his *Church History*, Book 2. p. 168, 169. with a Sheet of the Arms of the several Knights: the other by Mr. Blomefield, in the first page, and what follows, of a 4<sup>to</sup> Book entitled *Collectanea Cantabrigiensia*, printed at Fersfield, in 1742; the 20 first pages of which Book he afterwards cancelled, and replaced them with Inscriptions and Antiquities wholly relating to the County of Cambridge: so that, I suppose, this Tablet of Ely is not easily to be met with at present, by him: on which account, I shall give a description of it, from his cancelled Book; a Copy of which is in my possession, given by him to me. He printed it from an original old Parchment Roll, then in his possession, now where dispersed I know not, and formerly hung up in the Refectory of the Priory of Ely: it is above a yard long, having a piece of silk hanging before it: on the Top are the Arms of St. Ethelburgh, as she is there called, for St. Etheldreda, Foundress of the Abbey, viz. Gules, 3 Crowns Or; — of St. Ethelwalde Bp. of Winchester, viz. Gules, 3 Keys erect Argent; the same as were afterwards assumed for the Priory, and now used for the Deanery: — of King William the Conqueror, viz. Gules, 2 Lions passant guardant, Or: — and of Robert de Orford the 14<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Ely, viz. Gules, 3 Keys erect, about the middle of each, an Annulet crowned, Argent: — during which Bishop's time, this Roll was made: so that it must be between the years 1301 and 1309, when that Bishop died. The Historical part is in the middle, a Translation of which into English may be seen in Fuller, in the before cited place; (where by the way he calls Earl Morcar of Northumberland by the Name of Earl

\* Another circumstance by which the age of this Tablet may be probably guessed at, is the form of that Ornament in which the Inscription is wrote; it is a kind of Cartouch, or Compartment or Leather-work; this kind of Ornament, rather plain and simple, was used in Architecture, Painting, and Sculpture, in the time of Henr. 7. and of Henr. 8; whether earlier, does not appear: however, it continued in use, though in a more airy and loose form, during the reigns of Edw. 6, and Q. Elizabeth, and probably later: but taking the form of the Letters and other circumstances together; it is most likely the Tablet was painted in the time either of Henr. 7, or of Henr. 8. [This Note by Mr. Ja. Essex.]



Earl of Margary;) and on each side are 20 Shields of the Knights who were quartered upon the Abbey, over each of which is the Knight's Name, with that of the Monk with whom he was quartered. But as the Picture at Ely exhibits both the Arms, with the Effigies of the Knights and Monks in their proper Benedictine Habit, this is a greater Curiosity than that in the late Mr. Blomefield's possession: though perhaps his may be the older. Dr. Fuller seems to have taken his Transcript from the same Parchment which afterwards came into Mr. Blomefield's possession; as Bp. Robert de Orford's Arms were depicted with the others on the same Wall or Tablet; for I do not exactly understand him. As to the year 1306, when, he says, they were set up in Ely Hall, that is to be supposed only to be guess-work, as the mean year between his advancement to that See, and his Death: though he says the writing was composed in the Time of Hen. 7. possibly therefore the one might be a Copy from the other: for that there were many of the same sort is evident from this circumstance: when Dr. Peter Heylyn in his *Examen Historicum*, expressly wrote against the Church Historian, finds fault with him at p. 4, of his Preface, for printing this Roll, as being foreign to an Ecclesiastical History: Dr. or Mr. Fuller, in his Appeal of injured Innocence, p. 34, returns him this sensible Answer; 'The Arms of the Knights of Ely might on a threefold title have escaped the Animadvertor's censure: First, they were never before printed; Secondly, the wall whereon they were depicted, is now demolished; Lastly, each Knight being blended (or, as I may say, empaled) with a Monk, a moiety of that mixture may be construed reducible to Church History.' By which account, we may learn, that there was still another Picture or Drawing of these Knights and Monks of Ely on a wall, different from that whence the Writing or Parchment-Roll exhibited it; if that was his meaning in his former Description of it. And indeed he tells us in his Church History, Book 2. p. 169, that besides one which was depicted on the wall, or hung up against it, in the Common Hall or Refectory of the Convent at Ely, which hall was destroyed at the Dissolution, so that he could never have seen it there; there was another Transcript, as he calls it, of these Arms depicted on the wall of the Dean's Dining-room, which was lately extant, as he says: by which I conclude it was demolished in the Rebellious Times, and to which he alludes in his Answer to Dr. Heylyn: from which Drawing at the Deanery his Plate of Arms was taken; 'rather truly than neatly done, says he, out of desire to conform to the Original.' From whence we may judge that his was no slovenly or bad Copy: so that from that now at Ely, Dr. Fuller's and Mr. Blomefield's, which has all

the marks of originality, we may easily be enabled to examine the authenticity of Dr. Stukeley's account of it: who unluckily trips at the threshold, (no good omen,) in quoting this Picture: for at p. 121. of his *Palæographia Britannica*, Number 2, he thus mistakes the Knight's Name and Office, *Lurginellus Dux Centum Bipenniferorum*; when in reality, as I well remember it myself, and agreeably to Mr. Blomefield's Copy, it should be *Lucarnassus Dux ōnium Bipēnorum, Chief of all the Halberdiers*; or as Fuller has it, Captain of the Billmen. As for every difference in each Copy, I shall not trouble myself or you about it, only marking the chief. At p. 123, Dr. Stukeley produces *Duchet Dux Architectorum*, with as little diffidence as if it was the real reading; whereas the smallest share of Heraldic skill, of which however much parade is made, would have informed him, that the Coat under this Knight belonged to the ancient Family of *Touchet*, which alone might have led him to the true spelling of the Bearer's Name: your Plate calls him *Dux Architenetum*, and Blomefield's *Architenentium*, which Fuller translates *Captain of the Bowmen*; but then surely it ought to have been *Arcutenentium*, as probably it might be in his Copy: indeed there is no great dependance upon the Readings of old Writings and MSS; however, Fuller's translation conveys to us his notion of the Officer; which is a very probable one: neither do I much conceive the use of a *Company of Architects* in an Expedition. At p. 123, Dr. Stukeley tells us *Alexander de Monte bore Gules, 3 Cheverons Or*. Fuller calls him *Monte-Vignite*, and the 2 others *Monte-Vigente* or *Viginte*: all which is no other than a false orthography for *Montesichet*, the old Barons of which Name actually gave for Coat Armour *Gules, 3 Cheveronels Or*; as is evident from a curious MS of Heraldry in my possession, copied from the Original in the Library of King's College in Cambridge. In the same page, he miscalls from every other authority *Anthony de Longa Spata*, by the Name of *Aumarus*; a name in my opinion more probable; had it not been 3 against one; and one so apt to mistake. At p. 124. he very prudently drops the Office of *Blunt*, as there seemed to be some difficulty in it; saying only *Blundus Dux* bore so and so: in your Plate he is called *Naviū militarium Dux*, Captain of a *Man of War*, or rather *Admiral of the Fleet*; which seems to be a reasonable Officer: what to make of Mr. Blomefield's *Manuum militarium Dux*, I know not, no more than of Fuller's *Captain General of Footmen*. The Arms doubtless are those of the *Blount* Family. In the same page Dr. Stukeley says that *Paganus le Lorain Equitum Signifer* bears *Barry of 8 pieces Ar. & Az*: the well-known Coat of the noble and numerous Family of *Grey*: which alone was sufficient,



one would have thought, to have directed an able Antiquarian to the Bearer's Name, which was *Pagan le Graye*, according to your Plate and Mr. Blomefield's MS: although, it must be confessed, Dr. Fuller was modestly doubtful about the true Name, and did not at random put down any thing he thought proper, but thus cautiously worded it, *Pagan* — *Standerd-bearer of the Horsemen*. In the next page, 125, he says *Abrahamus de Pecam*, gave *Gules, a Fess between 2 Cheverons Argent*, the well-known Ordinaries of the old Barons *de Pechy*: accordingly he is so called in every other Authority: your Plate adjoins him *cum Ethelberto Eweri Monacho*; but as Blomefield and Fuller agree in *Ethelberto seniori*, it is most probable that is the true reading; though no other *Ethelbert* appears in the list; yet as there probably were many more Monks in the Convent at that time than these 40, who figure with their Knights by their side, that objection vanishes. At p. 126, he puts *Adanus* for *Adamus*, against the united authority of the 3 other Authors. He at the same page calls *Fides de Furnivallo*, *Fiden*. In your Plate it is *Lumbardo*, which no doubt should be *Lumbardus*, for the Arms belong to the Name of *Furnival*. At the same place he calls *Eustace le Noir*, *Eustachius le Nothus*, that is *Eustace the Bastard*; for which, if the good Knight was living, he might chance to be called before his Betters: the truth is, they were two Brothers or Kinsmen, as appears by the sameness of their Arms, but being of different complexions, to distinguish them asunder, the one was called *Eustace le Blanch*, or the *Fair*; while the other was distinguished by the appellation of *le Noir*, or the *Black*, or *Brown*: from which custom we have so many of the latter Name. At p. 127, he gives us, *Pigotus tertius filius Bodet*, for *Bigotus tertius filius Bigoti*, as in every other example; besides the notorious difference between the Arms of *Pigot* and *Bigot*. Immediately under this he makes this further mistake, *Bevalius Dux Militum versus Ely*, for *Belasius Prefes Militum versus Elye*; the Arms sufficiently intimating that they belonged to the Name of *Bellasis*, the famous General who gave his Name to the Works South of Aldreth Causey, still retaining the Name of *Belsar's Hills*; though against every Authority Dr. Stukeley has given the honour of that Achievement to a Phantom of his own raising, a mere ideal or imaginary Person, who never was heard of before, in this manner, p. 129, *Urfois*, *Master of the Conqueror's Military engines*, bore *Argent, a Cross Sable*; *Ely Tablet*; he repaired the Roman Camp South of *Audrey Causey*. Why he chooses to call his Hero *Urfois*, instead of his true Name *Opsal* or *Opsalus*, I know not: sure I am, that the Family of *Opsall* bear the aforesaid Arms. In the next line he is guilty

of another misnomer, writing in this manner, *Pezrel Captain of 300 Foot, Gules, a Cross Flory Argent. Ely Tab.* Mr. Blomefield has it thus, *Paynell trecentorum peditum Preses*; which I take to be the exact reading, as the Arms of *Paynel* exactly correspond; and Fuller was not far short of the right Name when he wrote *Pamell*, the *i* and *n* being so closely joined together as might easily occasion his mistake. The reading in your Plate may very probably be according to the Tablet; but MSS and Transcripts from old Inscriptions must not always be depended on: there can be no doubt in this case, where the Arms of one of the first Knights of the Garter of the Name of *Paynel* corroborates Mr. Blomefield's authority. In the same page Dr. Stukeley thus carelessly mentions *Sewardus Anglus Prefectus*; whereas it stands thus in all the rest, *Sewardus Anglus Anone Prefectus*, whom Fuller therefore styles, *Viſtualer of the Camp*. But a greater oversight is at p. 132, *Talbotus 6 filius in legatione missus*, for *Talbotus sepius in legatis missus*, or as Fuller expresses it in English, *Talboite sent oftentimes Embassadour*. Neither do I think Dr. Stukeley is altogether exact, when he translates, at the same page, *Walterus de Lacy Scutifer Conquestoris*, by *Sword-bearer to the Conqueror*; when in reality he was *Shield-bearer*; probably at that time a very different Officer from the former. In the next Article he is still more unhappy in not knowing, or at least overlooking the Arms of the great Family of *Bigod Earls of Norfolk*, quartered at this time by the most Noble House of *Howard*, viz. *Per Pale Or. & Vert. a Lion rampant Gu*: very different from those of *Pigot*, for thus he mistakes that Legend, *Pigotus Equitum 300 Dux*, for *Bigotus* &c. In p. 133, he gives *Hastings Miles*, but goes no further: however, Fuller adds, *A Soldier skilful in Navigation*, and thereby sufficiently explains his profession and occupation, together with the difficulty in the reading in your Plate and Mr. Blomefield's Book, where it is *Hastyns Miles Navita peritus*, and in your's, *Nauttic excersitus*. At p. 134, he curtails one half of the Knight's Name, according to all the authorities which I have seen; Blomefield calling him *Grosmanchus*, your Tablet *le Grosse Manchus*, et Fuller *le Grosmunus*; but as he could not well tell how to manage the 2 last syllables of the Name, whether it expressed the Bearer's Country, as *Dunstan le Grosse, of the Country of La Manche*; or expressed some other property or endowment of mind, or body; he thought best to shorten it, by writing only *Dunstan le Gros*. But the highest piece of conjecture and guess-work is yet to come: for knowing that the Arms of *Mauleverer* were 3 Greyhounds, and seeing them under *Johannes de Eboraco amalo*, which he knew not what to make of, and at the same time,



time, I suppose, recollecting that in our old French Deeds and Writings, the City of York is always called *Everwick* or somewhat like it, he thought out of *Amalo* and *Everwick* the Name of *Mauleverer* might easily be deduced, according to the known rules of Etymology; whereas in good truth, no such word as *Amalo* is to be met with, but in his account of the Ely Table; for every other description of it, has it in this manner *Joānes de Eboraco, Anglus*; or as Fuller expresses it *John of Yorke, an Englishman*. But this is a slight fault to the next; he could not, it seems, read the Ely Tablet over the Arms of *Argentem*, viz. *Gules, 3 covered Cups Argent*, which he ignorantly calls *Salts*; although so great an Antiquary ought to have been acquainted with these Arms in a more especial manner, as the Bearer thereof the *Argentines* of *Cambridgeshire* held their Manor of *Wymondly* in *Hertfordshire* by Grand Serjeantry, as being the *King's Cup-Bearer*, whereof the Covered Cups in their Shield was an expressive Demonstration. But this is far from being the worst part of this Article; for rather than omit any one of the 40 Articles of the Table which he here undertakes to describe, he had rather, it should seem, give an utterly false one, than that the Number should be incompleat: for thus is this Article delivered to us '— *Scutatorum laxatorum. Gules, 3 Salts Or. Ely Ta.*' — when in fact the whole Article is a mere forgery; as may be seen by the real Inscription, *Argentien curā vulneratorum habet*, as in your engraved Table; from whence the Dr. pretends to take his Copy; and moreover by falsifying the Colour or Metal of the Cups from *Argent* to *Or*, destroys one part of the little merit in the Science he commends; as no doubt the Name of *Argentine* was alluded to in the *Argent* or Silver metal of the Cups in the Shield. In Mr. Blomefield's List it is, *Argentien curam habuit vulneratorum*; which Fuller has ridiculously enough translated, *Surgeon General*, taking, as it is reasonable to suppose, the 3 covered Cups, for so many *Gallipots* or *Boxes of Salve*. Not much more lucky was his guess in the next Article, which is *Pigotus Pontium Procurator*, or *Bridge-Master*, as Fuller has it; which is thus mangled by our Antiquary, *Pigotus — ilium Procurator*. The next Knight's Name is wholly omitted, which was *Ivo*; for thus Dr. Stukeley gives us this Legend, *Willus Comitis Warren Frater*, instead of, *Ivo Willmi Comitis Warrēn Frater*. But to do the Dr. justice, Fuller has made the same omission: however, as the one quotes the Ely Tablet all along for his authority, where the Name *Ivo* is yet to be seen, and wholly omits it; the same excuse will not do for the one, as for the other. Dr. Fuller has made a strange translation for one who knew so well the meaning of the word *Sacrista*, when he gives us this, *Eneas de*

*Novo Burgo with Olane the holye Monk of the Monasterye*, for *Sacristain* or *Sacrist* of the Monastery. Mr. Blomefield has it in this manner, *Æneas de Novo Burgo, cum Alano Cænobii Sacrista Monacho*; so that I think there can be no doubt but the Monk or Sacristain's Name in your engraved Table ought to be *Alano*. The last Article in Dr. Stukeley's account of this Tablet is conformable to the first, that is, utterly wrong: in the real Table is, *Nigellus de la Fontaundore*, which the Doctor has thus metamorphosed, *Nigellus de la Fontana, Ermine, 3 Lunets Sable*. But I think that sort of Crescent born in this Shield, is called by Herald's, *Increscent*: for I will not be positive about a thing I may be mistaken in, and do not pretend to know much of.

Heartily glad am I to have got to the end of this Fault-finding business: but a Person who has carried his abuse to such an excess as Dr. Stukeley has done against Messrs Blomefield and Parkins, in an argument which they understood as well as himself, deserves no better quarter than he has met with here; where much more might be objected to his enthusiastic and fanciful Dissertation on bearing Arms, in which he takes occasion to introduce the *Ely Tablet*, was one so disposed: and give me leave to finish this long Letter with this Observation, That I verily believe, notwithstanding the pretences to Heraldry, with the assistance of Mr. Wingfield Bodenham's MSS, [See p. 105. of Pal. Brit.] no one person can be produced, in so few instances, to be guilty of so many egregious, capital and glaring mistakes.

## NUMB. V.

*Varia Cartæ Regis WILLIELMI CONQUESTORIS ANGLIÆ, de Libertatibus, et Consuetudinibus Ecclesiæ Eliensis.*—E Lib. Elien. MS. lib. ii. cap. 117, &c. Et MS. Fol. notat. M. in *Ædibus Dom. Episcopi Elien.* Holbourn.

### I.

**WILLIELMUS** *Anglorum* Rex, omnibus Fidelibus suis et Vicecomitibus in quorum vicecomitatibus Abbatia de *Ely* terras habet, Salutem. Precipio ut Abbatia de *Ely* habeat omnes consuetudines suas, scilicet, *Sacham* et *Socham*, *Tol* et *Team*, et *Infangenethes*, *Hamsocna*, et *Grithbriche*, *Fithwite*, et *Ferdwite*, infra burgum et extra, et omnes alias forisfacturas que emendabiles sunt in terra sua super suos homines; has, inquam, habeat sicut habuit die qua Rex *Ædwardus* fuit vivus et mortuus, et sicut mea iussione dirationate sunt apud *Kenteford* per plures Scyras ante meos Barones, videlicet, *Gaufridum Constanciensem* Episcopum, et *Baldewynum* Abbatem, et Abbatem *Ælfi*, et

\* B

*Wlf-*



*Wlfwoldum* Abbatem, et *Ivonem de Tailebois*, et *Petrum de Valoniis*, et *Picotum* Vicecomitem, et *Tielum de Helum*, et *Hugonem de Hofdeng*, et *Gocelinum de Norwic*, et plures alios. Teste *Rogero Bigot*.

2.

*Alia Carta ejusdem, de Possessionibus Ecclesie restituendis.*

**W**ILLIELMUS Rex Anglie, Lanfranco Archiepiscopo, et R. Comiti Moritonii, et *Gaufrido Constanciensi* Episcopo, Salutem. Mando vobis et precipio ut iterum faciatis congregari omnes Scyras que interfuerunt placito habito de terris Ecclesie de *Ely* antequam mea Conjux in *Normanniam* novissime veniret; cum quibus etiam sint de Baronibus meis qui competenter adesse poterint, et predicto placito interfuerunt, et qui terras ejusdem Ecclesie tenent; quibus in unum congregatis, eligantur plures de illis *Anglis*, qui sciunt quomodo terre jacebant prefate Ecclesie, die qua Rex *Ædwardus* obiit; et quod inde dixerint ibidem jurando testentur. Quo facto, restituantur Ecclesie terre que in dominio suo erant die obitus *Ædwardi*, exceptis his quas homines clamabant me sibi dedisse; illas vero litteris mihi signate que sint, et qui eas tenent. Qui autem tenent *Theinlandes*, que proculdubio debent teneri de Ecclesia, faciant concordiam cum Abbate quam meliorem poterint, et si noluerint, terre remaneant ad Ecclesiam. Hoc quoque detinentibus *Socam* et *Sacam* fiat. Denique precipite ut illi homines faciant pontem de *Ely*, qui meo precepto et dispositione hucusque illum soliti sunt facere.

3.

*Alia Carta ejusdem Regis.*

**W**ILLIELMUS Rex Anglorum, *Gosfrido* Episcopo et *Rodberto* Comiti *Moritonio*, Salutem. Facite simul venire omnes illos qui terras tenent de dominico victu Ecclesie de *Ely*; et volo ut Ecclesia eas habeat sicut habebat die qua *Ædwardus* Rex fuit vivus et mortuus; et si aliquis dixerit quod inde de meo dono aliquid habeat, mandate mihi magnitudinem terre, et quomodo eam reclamat, et Ego secundum quod audiero, aut ei inde escambitionem reddam, aut aliud faciam. Facite etiam ut *Symeon* habeat omnes consuetudines que ad Abbatiam de *Ely* pertinent, sicut eas habebat Antecessor ejus tempore Regis *Ædwardi*. Preterea facite ut Abbas saisitus sit de illis *Theinlandes* que ad Abbatiam pertinebant die quo R. Æ. fuit mortuus, si illi qui eas habent secum concordare noluerint. Et ad istud placitum submonete *Will. de Guarenna* et *Ricardum* filium Comitis *Gileberti*, et *Hugonem de Monte*

*forti*, et *Gaufridum de Manna villa*, et *Radulfum de Belfou*, et *Herveum Bituricensem*, et *Harduvinum de Escalers*, et alios quos Abbas vobis nominabit.

4.

*Alia Carta ejusdem.*

**W**ILLIELMUS Rex Anglorum, Lanfranco Archiepiscopo et *Gosfrido Constanciensi* Episcopo, Salutem. Facite Abbatem de *Ely* resaisiari de istis terris quas isti tenent, *Hugo de Monte forti* unum Manerium nomine *Bercham*, *Ricardus* filius Comitis *Gileberti*, *Brochesehed*; *Picot* Vicecomes, *Impintunam*; *Hugo de Bernerui* 3 Hidas, *Remigius* Episcopus 1 Hidas, Episcopus *Baiocensis* 3 Hidas, *Frodo* frater Abbatis 1 Manerium, Duo *Carpentarii* 1 Hidas et 3 V; Si ipse Abbas poterit ostendere supradictas terras esse de dominio sue Ecclesie, et si supradicti homines non poterint ostendere, ut eas terras habuissent de dono meo; facite etiam quod Abbas predictus habeat *Sacam* et *Socam*, et alias consuetudines, sicut antecessor ejus habuit, die qua Rex *Ædwardus* fuit vivus et mortuus.

5.

*Carta alia ejusdem, de Quinque Hundredis in SUTHFOLC.*

**W**ILLIELMUS Rex Anglorum, Lanfranco Archiepiscopo, *Gosfrido Constanciensi* Episcopo, et *Rodberto* Com. de *Moritonio*, Salutem. Facite *Symeonem* Abbatem habere *Sacam* et *Socam* suam, prout suus Antecessor habuit T.R.Æ. videlicet, de *Quinque Hundredis de Suthfolc*, et ab omnibus viris qui terras tenent in illis *Hundredis*. Videte ne Abbas predictus quicquam injuste perdat; et facite ut omnia sua cum magno honore teneat.

6.

*Prohibitum Regis ne Episcopus LINCOLNIENSIS, aut Secularis Justicia, novas consuetudines intra INSULAM requirant.*

**W**ILLIELMUS Rex Anglorum, Lanfranco Archiepiscopo, et *Gosfrido* Episcopo, et *Rodberto* Comiti de *Moritonio*, Salutem. Defendite ne *Remigius* Episcopus novas consuetudines requirat infra *Insulam de Ely*. Nolo enim ut ibi habeat nisi illud quod antecessor ejus habeat T.R.Æ. scilicet, qua die ipse Rex mortuus est. Et si *Remigius* Episcopus inde placitare voluerit, placitet inde sicut fecisset T.R.Æ. Et placitum istud sit in vestra presentia. De custodia de *Norewic* Abbatem *Symeonem* quietum esse dimittite, sed ibi munitionem suam conduci faciat et custodiri. Facite remanere placitum de terris quas calumpniantur *Willielmus de Ou*, et *Radulfus* filius *Gualeranni*, et *Rodbertus Gernun*,  
li



si inde placitare voluerint, sicut inde placitassent T.R.Æ. et sicut in eodem tempore Abbatia consuetudines suas habebat. Volo ut eas omnino faciatis habere, sicut Abbas per Cartas suas, et per testes suos eas deplacitare poterit.

7.

*Præceptum Regis quod Abbas de ELY benedicatur secundum usum Ecclesiæ, et quod possessiones loci describentur.*

**W**ILLIELMUS Rex Anglorum, Lanfranco Archiepiscopo, Salutem. Volo ut videas Cartas Abbatis de Ely, et si dicunt quod Abbas ejusdem loci debeat benedici ubicumque Rex illius terre precipiet, mando ut eum ipse benedicas. Preterea fac ut illi faciant Pontem de Ely sine excusatione qui eum soliti sunt facere. Inquire per Episcopum Constanciensem et per Episcopum Walchelinum, et per ceteros qui terras Sancte Ætheldrede scribi et jurare [f. jurari] fecerunt, quomodo jurate fuerunt, et qui eas juraverunt, et qui jurationem audierunt, et que sunt terre, et quante, et quot, et quomodo vocate, et qui eas tenent. His distincte notatis et scriptis, fac ut cito inde rei veritatem per breve tuum sciam, et cum eo veniat legatus Abbatis.

8.

*Præceptum Regis quod consuetudines pristinae de libertate Ecclesiæ illibatae servantur.*

**W**ILLIELMUS Rex Anglorum, Lanfranco Archiepiscopo et Gosfrido Constanciarum Episcopo, atque Rodberto Comiti, Salutem. Mando vobis ut Abbatem de Ely sine dilatione habere faciatis benedictionem, et terras suas, atque omnes consuetudines, ut vobis sepe per brevia mea mandavi; et quicquid ipse per placitum de dominio adquisierit, nil cuiquam inde tribuat nisi mea licentia, et se de placitorum ei facite rectum, defendentes ut nullus ejus incidat silvas, munitionemque suam habeat in Norwico, et homines sui ibi sint cum opus fuerit, omniaque sua cum honore habeat. Teste Rogero de Lureio.

9.

*Aliud ejusdem Regis Præceptum.*

**W**ILLIELMUS Rex Anglorum, Lanfranco Archiepiscopo, et Gosfrido, Salutem. Volo ut consecratio Abbatis de Ely, quam Remigius Episcopus requirit, remaneat, donec per litteras tuas cognoscam si Remigius monstravit vel monstrare poterit, quod antecessores sui Abbates de Ely consecrassent. Quod ad Christianitatem pertinet in illa Abbatia fiat: et consuetudines pro quibus Remigius vinum requirit, ipse habeat, si monstrare poterit antecessores ejus habuisse T.R.Æ. Molendinum de Grantebruge quod Picotus fecit destruat, si alterum distubet. De

dominicis terris Sancte Ætheldrede sit Abbas factus, sicut alia vice precepi; qui alteras terras tenent, vel Socam vel Sacam, de Abbate recognoscant et deserviant; aut eas dimittant.

## NUMB. VI.

*Epistola variæ, de Mutatione Cœnobii ELIENSIS in Episcopatum.*

I.

*Epistola ANSELMI Cantuar. Archiepiscopi ad Papam PASCHALEM II. A.D. 1108. — Ex Eadmeri Hist. Nov. Lib. 4. pag. 96.*

**D**OMINO et Patri Reverendo Paschali Summo Pontifici, Anselmus Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis, debitam obedientiam, cum fidei obsequio et orationibus. Quoniam robur dispositionum, quæ utiliter fiunt, in Ecclesia Dei, de vestra pendet autoritate prudentiæ quando fiunt, et ad vestram referendæ sunt notitiam et judicium, ut, cum Apostolico assensu fuerint confirmata, nulla præsumptione a posteris, quæ salubriter statuta sunt, queant violari, sed rata permanent in perpetuum. In Anglia est quidam Episcopatus, scilicet *Lincolniensis*, cujus Diocæsis tam ampla est, ut ad ea quæ non nisi ab Episcopali persona fieri queunt, unus Episcopus plene sufficere non possit. Quod cum consideraret Rex, et Episcopi, et Principes, et alii rationabiles et religiosi viri Regni Anglorum; ad utilitatem Ecclesiæ visum consilium est, Episcopatum præfatum in duos dividere; ita ut Sedes Episcopalis in quadam Abbatia quæ sita est in *Insula* vocata *Heli*, et est intra præfatam Diocæsim, constitutur, Monachis ibidem permanentibus, sicut sunt multi Episcopatus qui Monachos in matre Ecclesia habent, non Canonicos. Quod libenter concedit Episcopus *Lincolniensis Robertus* nomine, quia pro iis quæ assumuntur de sua Ecclesia ad instaurandum novum Episcopatum in *Heli*, tantum Ecclesiæ *Lincolniensi* restauratur, ut ipse sufficiens et gratum sibi esse fateatur. Cui rei mihi tum propter prædictam necessitatem, tum propter multitudinem prædictorum qui in hoc consentiunt, visum est ut, salva vestra autoritate, in perpetuum roboretur, ne a posteris ulla præsumptione, quod bene statutum fuerit, violetur. Oramus Dominum Omnipotentem, ut Ecclesiæ suæ vos in diuturna prosperitate custodiat.

2.

*Epistola PASCHALIS II. Papæ ad Regem HENRICUM I. — E. Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 2.*

**P**ASCHALIS Episcopus Servus Servorum Dei, dilecto in Christo Filio Henrico glorioso Regi Anglorum, Salutem et Apostolicam Bene-



ditionem. Omnipotenti Deo gratias agimus, quod talem te nostris temporibus constituit; qui et terrenum regnum sapienter ad honorem Dei gubernas et eterni Regis sollicitudinem ante oculos portas. Postulasti siquidem a Nobis per litteras, ut in loco qui *Ely* dicitur novus ex Apostolica auctoritate Episcopatus constituatur; quia *Lincolniensem* Episcopatum tante magnitudinis esse dixisti, ut ad peragenda ea que Episcopalis sunt officii, unus Episcopus nullatenus sufficere possit; pro quo et devotionem tue voluntatis laudamus, et dispositioni assensum prebemus; ita tamen ut in celebri loco constituatur, ne Nomen Episcopi, quod absit, vilescat. Ad hoc enim Episcopus constituitur, ut populum Dei et verbo doceat, et vita informet, et ad verum Pastorem Dominum commissarum sibi animarum lucra reportet. In aliis quoque de quibus rogasti, licet quedam ibi inordinata videantur, tue tamen voluntati refragari nequaquam valemus. Novit preterea Gloria vestra Dominum *Herveum* Episcopum, quem vita et scientia commendat non modica, nimia barbarorum ferocia et persecutione de Sede sua expulsum, et multa fidelium fratrumque suorum cede fuisse fugatum; cujus ut Scientia fructum qui non perit afferre, et Vita bonum valeat Dei populo exemplum prebere, volumus et rogamus, ut si qua eum apud vos vacans ecclesia vocaverit, ibi ex auctoritate Apostolica constituatur; ne infructuoso diu silentio torpeat, qui vite celestis documenta in scientia et moribus portat. Omnipotens Deus Apostolorum suorum precibus et vos et prolem vestram custodiat, et celeste post terrenum Vobis regnum concedat. Data XI. Kal. Decembris.

3.

*Epistola PASCHALIS II. Papæ, ad Regem HENRICUM I.*—E. Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 3.

**P**ASCHALIS Episcopus, Servus Servorum Dei, Dilecto filio *Henrico* glorioso Regi *Anglorum*, Salutem et Apostolicam benedictionem. Dulcissime Nobis dilectionis tue litteras recepimus, affectionis quam erga beatum *Petrum* et Nos ejus famulos geris dulcedinem ostendentes. De quibus satis gavisi sumus, quia in terreni Regis corde patrie celestis amorem cognoscimus. Ideoque tanto tuis libentius et facilius petitionibus assensum prebemus, quanto te certius que celesti Regi placeant expetere comperimus. Ad causam autem illam quam secrete affectio vestra nobis intimare curavit, studium quantum poterimus adhibere curavimus. In omnibus etiam in quibuscumque poterimus, ad honorem Dei et Glorie tue excellentiam et exaltationem, libenter querimus. De excambio preterea illo de quo Nos per fratres nostros *Herveum* Episcopum et *Petrum* Camerarium tua rogavit dilectio, si ad utilitatem Ecclesie sicut mandasti fieri poterit,

tuis petitionibus assensum prebemus. Eundem Fratrem *Herveum* Episcopum, quem tibi dilectum cognovimus, glorie tue attentius commendamus.

4.

*Epistola PASCHALIS II. Papæ ad ANSELMUM Archiepiscopum.*—E Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 4.

**P**ASCHALIS Episcopus, Servus Servorum Dei, Venerabili fratri *Anselmo Cantuariensi* Archiepiscopo, Salutem et Apostolicam benedictionem. Novit fraternitas tua quod sicut ex Apostolica sententia perpenditur, Omnis pontifex ex hominibus assumptus, pro hominibus in his que ad Deum sunt, constituitur. Frater vester iste *Herveus* quem vita et scientia commendat, ob barbarorum immanitatem quam in fratres ejus et alios Christianos crudeliter exercuerunt, in ecclesia in qua constitutus est Episcopale officium adimplere non potuit. Ne igitur officium sibi injunctum infructuosum remaneat, Dilectioni tue mandamus, rogantes ut ei attentius provideas. Et si qua apud vos vacans ecclesia eum vocaverit, ex Apostolice Sedis auctoritate in ea eum constituas, quatinus ibi Deo servire et Episcopale officium, Domino largiente, adimplere valeat, ne infructuoso silentio diu torpeat, qui vite celestis documenta in scientia et moribus portat. Interim autem in omnibus eum commendatum habeas; satis enim strenue et fideliter se apud Nos in causis vestris studiosum exhibuit. Fraternitatem tuam in columem per multa tempora Virtus divina custodiat. Data XI Kal. Decembris.

5.

*Epistola PASCHALIS Papæ II. ad ANSELMUM Archiepiscopum, et conprovinciales Episcopos.*—E Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 5.—Et e MS. Fol. notat. M. in *Ædibus* Dom. Episcopi Elien. Holbourn.

**P**ASCHALIS Episcopus, Servus Servorum Dei, Venerabili fratri *Anselmo Cantuariensi* Archiepiscopo, et ceteris conprovincialibus Episcopis, Salutem et Apostolicam benedictionem. Inter cetera regna terrarum ad Apostolice Sedis dilectionem atque obedientiam *Anglorum* regnum specialiter pertinere, Apostolice Sedis Scripta, et *Anglicarum* Hystoriarum series manifestant. Que nimirum causa sollicitudinem nostram propensius impellit illius regni ecclesias familiariter confovere, et earum dispositionibus sollicitius invigilare. *Lincolniensem* itaque Episcopatum tantum tamque spaciosum ex filii nostri Regis vestrisque literis agnovimus, ut ad ea que Episcopalis sunt officii peragenda unus nullatenus sufficere possit Episcopus. Quapropter ex voluntate *Lincolniensis* Episcopi postulat a Nobis idem karissimus filius  
noster



noſter et Chriſtianiſſimus Rex *Anglorum Henricus*, quatinus in parte una Episcopatus ipſius, ex Apoſtolice Sedis permiſſione, novus Episcopatus conſtituatur, in loco videlicet qui *Ely* vocatur. Cujus Nos petitionibus, quia religioſe videbantur, aſſenſum libenter prebuiſimus, et Episcopatum in loco prefato conſtituendi ex Apoſtolica auctoritate licentiam damus; Statuentes ut Sedes Episcopalis in loco predicto conſtituta, omni deinceps tempore perſeueret. Parrochiam quoque, quam veſtra fraternitas, cum predicto fratre *Lincolniensi* Episcopo, et Regis providentia eidem Episcopatu designaverit, perpetuo poſſideat. Porro de Monasterio in quo Sedes Episcopalis conſtituitur, *Anglicorum* Monasteriorum in quibus Episcopi conſtituti ſunt conſuetudo ſervabitur. Hujus Conſtitucionis conſervatores Omnipotentis Dei et Apoſtolorum ſuorum benedictione perpetuo perfruantur. Amen.\* Ego *Paschalis* Catholice Eccleſie Episcopus. Data apud *Troiam*, per manum *Leonis Roman.* Eccleſie Diaconi Cardinalis, 11 Kal. Decembris, Indictione prima, Anno Dominice Incarnationis Milieſimo Centeſimo Octavo, Pontificatus autem Domini *Paschalis* II. Pape Anno X.

\* *Hinc ad finem, E ſolo MS. M. Dom. Episcopi Elien. Holbourn.*

# NUMB. VII.

*Carta Regis HENRICI, quomodo Abbatiam de Ely in Episcopatum tranſmutavit. — E Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 6.*

**I**N nomine Sancte et Individue Trinitatis, Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti. Anno Incarnationis Dominice M. c. viii, Indictione, Anno vero Pontificatus Domini *Paschalis* Pape ii, decimo; Regni quoque mei ſimiliter decimo. Ego *HENRICUS* providente divina clementia Rex *Anglorum*, et *Normannorum* Dux, *Willielmi* Magni Regis filius, qui *Edwardo* Regi hereditario jure ſucceſſit in regnum; Videns paucos, et ob hoc plurimum laborantes in meſſe, et in ipſa *Lincolniensem* Eccleſiam multa plebe ſecundam; ex auctoritate et conſilio predicti Pape *Paschalis*, et aſſenſu ſimul et prece *Rodberti Lincolniensis* Episcopi, qui tunc eccleſie predictę preſidebat, et totius Capituli ſui cum ipſo, annuente Domino *Anſelmo* beate memorie *Cantuariensi* Archiepiſcopo, et *Thoma* ii. venerabili *Eboracensium* Archiepiſcopo, et univerſis Episcopis et Abbatibus totius *Anglie*, ſed et omnibus Ducibus, Comitibus et Principibus regni mei; *Eliense* Monasterium, in quo quidem uſque in tempora mea Abbates preſuerant, cum *Cantebrigiensi* provincia, quantum videlicet ad jus *Lincolniensis* Eccleſie pertinebat, cum Abbatiis duabus, *Thorneia* videlicet et *Cateriht*, in Episcopalem Sedem, ſicut et ceteros Episcopatus Regni mei, liberam et

abſolutam perenniter Statuo et Confirmo. Et pro ſubjectione et omnibus Episcopalibus conſuetudinibus ad ſupradictam *Lincolniensem* Eccleſiam pertinentibus abſolvendis, conſilio et aſſenſu predicti Pape *Paschalis*, de beneficiis ejuſdem Monasterii, Villam nomine *Spaldewic* cum appendiciis ſuis, que in territorio *Huntendonie* ſita eſt, cum omnibus conſuetudinibus ad villam predictam pertinentibus, ſupradictę *Lincolniensis* Eccleſie, et *Rodberto* ejuſdem Sedis Episcopo, et Succelloribus ſuis, ſicut eam unquam *Eliense* Monasterium liberius et quietius tenuit, jure perpetuo tradidi poſſidenda. Primum ſiquidem *Lundoniis* apud *Westmonasterium* in ſolemnitate Pentecoſtes de negotio iſto in preſentia mea coram felicis memorie *Anſelmo* Archiepiſcopo, et univerſis Episcopis, et Abbatibus, et Proceribus regni mei, tractatum eſt, et eorum omnium communis aſſenſus eſt favorabiliter conſecutus. Poſt mortem vero predicti Pontificis *Anſelmi*, ex auctoritate Domini Pape *Paschalis*, ſicut jam ſupradictum eſt, in Concilio apud *Castrum Notingham* habito, in Die Translationis Beate *Ætheldrede* Virginis Sedis ejuſdem, feliciter per miſericordiam Dei et terminatum eſt et definitum, xvi. Kal. Novembris; [\* faventibus et ſubſcribentibus iis quorum annotata ſunt hic tam Signa quam Nomina.

Ego <i>Matbildis</i> <i>Anglorum</i> Regina ſubſcripſi	†
Ego <i>Matbildis</i> Sponſa Regis <i>Romani</i>	†
Signum <i>Hervei Eliensis</i> Episcopi primi	†
Signum <i>Rogerii</i> Episcopi <i>Salesburienſis</i>	†
Signum <i>Ranulfi</i> Cancellarii	†
Signum <i>Richardi Baiocensis</i> Episcopi	†
Signum <i>Herberti Norwicensis</i> Episcopi	†
Signum <i>Reinelmi Herefordensis</i> Episcopi	†
Signum <i>Radulphi Roſensis</i> Episcopi	†
Signum <i>Richardi Londonensis</i> Episcopi	†
Signum <i>Roberti Ceſtrenſis</i> Episcopi	†
Signum <i>Willielmi Exoniensis</i> Episcopi	†
Signum <i>Ranulphi Dunelmensis</i> Episcopi	†
Signum <i>Roberti Lincolniensis</i> Episcopi	†
Signum <i>Roberti</i> Comititis de <i>† Mellento</i>	
Signum <i>Willielmi</i> Comititis de <i>W† arrenna</i>	
Signum <i>Simonis</i> Comititis	†
Signum <i>Stephani</i> de <i>† Albamara</i>	
Signum <i>Rogeri</i> Comititis <i>Piſta† venſis</i>	
Signum <i>Gilberti</i> de <i>Aquila</i>	†
Signum <i>Willielmi</i> de <i>Albini</i>	†
Signum <i>Nigelli</i> de <i>Albini</i>	†

\* *The original Charter is ſaid to have been extant in the year 1640; as is noted in the Monastiſcon Anglicanum, Vol. I. pag. 95. — and from thence the Subſcriptions to this Charter are added.*

NUMB.



## NUMB. VIII.

*A Dissertation on the foregoing Charter of King HENRY I. and a Defence of it, against the Objections made to it by Mr. Selden and Mr. Wharton.*

MR. *Selden* was the first that intimated his suspicion of this Charter, and made several objections against it to prove it spurious: [*Seldeni in Eadmerum Notæ et Spicilegium. pag. 212.*] in which he was followed by Mr. *Wharton*, [*Angl. Sacr. vol. i. pag. 678. Note a.*] who not only adopts the same suspicion and objections; but also charges the Monks of *Ely* with forging it. But as I am fully persuaded that it is genuine, I shall give my reasons for it, and take the liberty of enquiring and examining, whether the objections made against it, are well founded, or not.

The principal objection of Mr. *Selden*, is to the Date of it, which is in these words; “Anno ‘Incarnationis Dominice 1108, Indictione, Anno vero Pontificatus Domini *Paschalis* Pape ii, ‘decimo; regni quoque mei similiter decimo.” On which Mr. *Selden* observes, ‘That *Anselm* ‘died 11 Kal. of May A.D. 1109; — but in this ‘Charter which carries the Date of the year 1108, ‘*Anselm* is mentioned as dead. Besides (says he) the ‘year 1108, is called the 10th year of King *Henry*; ‘whereas it could at most be no more than the ‘9th year of his reign.’ — Mr. *Wharton* adds nothing new against the Charter, but only puts Mr. *Selden*’s objections in other words. ‘The ‘times (says he) fixed in the Charter are incompatible; for the 10th year of King *Henry* I. ‘begins August 2. 1109; nor can it be said that ‘1109 ought to be substituted for 1108, because ‘the 10th year of Pope *Paschal* ended August 14, ‘1109.’ — To these objections, it would be easy to add many more of the same kind against the Charter, equally strong and conclusive, but overlooked both by Mr. *Selden* and Mr. *Wharton*; — for instance, *Thomas* II, Archbishop of *York*, is said to have been one of those who were consenting to this Charter for erecting the See of *Ely*; whereas it is evident from undoubted authority, that he was not consecrated before the 4th of the Kal. of July 1109; and consequently could not be Archbishop before that time; — besides, *Hervey* himself was one of the Bishops who assisted at his Consecration, and was then styled only Bishop of *Bangor*; which evidently shows, he was not translated to *Ely* at that time. — These, it must be confessed, are apparent solecisms in Chronology, and most gross Antichronisms, as Mr. *Selden* calls them; — Supposing that all those several characters in the Date, were intended to express one and the same year, namely, 1108; — for the 10th year of Pope *Paschal*, and the 10th year of K. *Henr.* I, are un-

doubtedly the two different years, 1108, and 1109. — But the mistake, I conceive, is in Mr. *Selden*, in supposing all those four characters were designed to denote one and the same year; — for had he examined the contents of the Charter with his usual exactness, he must have found, that what is ascribed to the Pope, that is, his giving his *Fiat*, perfectly agrees with the former part of the Date, under these several marks, viz. A.D. 1108, the 1st year of Indiction,\* and the 10th year of his Pontificate; — but what is ascribed to the King, which is his finishing the business, and giving the Charter, was in the 10th year of his reign, i.e. the year of our Lord 1109. As I shall now endeavour to prove.

I must own, on first reading over the Charter with Mr. *Selden*’s observations upon it, I was in some doubt about it, and rather inclined to think it spurious; both from the manifest inconsistencies in the Date, when applied to the same year, and likewise from the authority of a person of such distinguished abilities in criticism as Mr. *Selden*. However, on finding that two distinct years were expressed in the Date of the Charter, and that the transactions mention’d in the Charter, severally and with great exactness corresponded with those two years; I could not but acquit the Monks of forgery, laid to their charge by Mr. *Wharton*; even though he had Mr. *Selden*’s opinion to vouch for it.

There is certainly a want of perspicuity in the Date of this Charter; otherwise it could never have been so greatly mistaken: but the mistake, I imagine, arose on seeing the several chronological marks of two separate years blended together, without proper distinction; and taking it for granted, that they were all to be applied to one year. An almost similar instance of inaccuracy may be seen in the Date of K. *William the Conqueror*’s Foundation Charter of the Collegiate Church of St. *Martin Le Grand, London*, [*Monast. Angl. vol. iii. versus finem, inter Ecclesias Collegiat. pag. 27.*] expressed in these terms; ‘Scripta est hæc Cartula Anno ab ‘Incarnatione Domini MLXVIII, scilicet, 2do ‘anno regni mei; peracta vero est hæc donatio ‘Die Natalis Domini, et postquam in die Pentecostes confirmata, quando Mathilda, Conjux

\* The Era of Indiction, is a Cycle of 15 years; and is usually expressed by Indictio 1<sup>ma</sup>, 2<sup>da</sup>, &c. or, Indictionis annus 1<sup>mus</sup>, 2<sup>us</sup>, &c. And in the printed Copies of this Charter given us by Mr. *Selden* and Mr. *Wharton*, a blank space is left after the word Indictione, . . . as if some figure was omitted; but in all the ancient MS Copies that I have seen, (and I have seen several,) Indictione stands alone, without either a figure or blank space after it; and is, I apprehend to be understood absolutely, for the First year of Indiction. And to support this explanation, the Reader may see another instance of it in a Charter of King *Cedwalla* to *Aldelm* Abbot of *Malmesbury*, thus Dated, ‘Scripta autem est hæc Munificentia, Indictione, ‘Anno ab Incarnatione Domini 688.’ which was also the First year of Indiction. See *Angl. Sacr. vol. ii. pag. 11.*



' mea in Basilica S. Petri Westmonasterii in Reginam divino nutu est consecrata.' *i. e.* " This Charter was wrote in the year of the Incarnation of our Lord 1068. namely, in the 2d year of my reign; but this donation was made on the day of the Nativity of our Lord, [preceeding, *i. e.* 1067;] And afterwards confirmed on the day of Pentecost, when *Mathilda* my Wife was by the divine favour consecrated Queen in the Church of St. *Peter* at *Westminster*," [which was in the year 1068.]—So in respect to our *Ely* Charter, it was thought necessary to refer to the Council held at *London* in *Whitsuntide* A. D. 1108, when the affair was first moved, and there approved of;—and likewise to the Pope's assent, which was obtained the same year in the Month of November;—and lastly to the King's Confirmation, when the business was finally concluded, and signed in form, by the Queen of *England*, the Queen of the *Romans*, the Bishops, and Nobles then present, at the Council held at *Nottingham* in October A. D. 1109.—The Date, it is true, might have been more accurately expressed; but as it now stands in the Charter, is surely susceptible of a very consistent solution, and agrees perfectly with the contents of the Charter to which it is prefixed. If any doubt still remains with the reader, how he is to understand the Date of this Charter;—perhaps it will appear plainer to him, to have before him a translation of it, with the addition of a few words, by way of paraphrase, which shall be included in crotchets. ' In the Name of the ' holy and undivided Trinity, the Father, and ' the Son, and the Holy Spirit.' [The matters herein after related, were transacted,] ' In the ' year of our Lord's Incarnation 1108, in the ' [first year of] Indiction, and in the 10th year ' of the Pontificate of [our] Lord Pope *Paschal* ' the 2d; and likewise in the 10th year of my ' reign.'—On reading a Date expressed in those terms; could any one doubt, but that the transactions related in the Charter, to which it was prefixed, were partly done in the year 1108, and partly done and finished in the 10th year of the King, *i. e.* A. D. 1109?—especially if on perusal of them, it plainly appears to be so in fact?

Though I have hitherto considered those several designations of time expressed in the beginning of this Charter, as the Date of it; and in compliance with Mr. *Selden* and Mr. *Wharton*, have called it so;—yet I beg leave to observe, that if by the Date of any Instrument, we are to understand the time and place expressed, when and where it passed, or was signed;—then it is really not the Date of this Charter.—The Date properly speaking is at the end of it, in these words, ' Post mortem—*Anselmi*—in ' Concilio apud *Castrum Notingham* habito, in ' die Translationis Beate *Ætheldrede* Virginis— ' xvi. Kal. Novembris.'—Which sufficiently de-

notes the year, and determines it to have been 1109, *i. e.* the 10th year of the King:—besides, the Princess *Matilda* the King's Daughter, subscribes to the Charter under this Title, ' Ego ' *Mathildis* sponsa Regis Rom.' which Title did not belong to her, till about Midsummer 1109, when she was espoused to the Emperor. To obviate any doubt that may arise, whether indeed there was any Council held at *Nottingham* that year; (of which I do not find any mention made in the Historians of that time;) we have not only this Charter to produce in evidence for it; but also another of the same King to *Ranulf* Bishop of *Durham*, among the *Harleian MSS.* in the *British Museum* [N<sup>o</sup>. 258. sect. 20.—See also an Abstract of it, in *Monast. Angl.* vol. ii. pag. 845.] in which the King styles himself, ' Filius Magni Regis *Willielmi*, qui beatæ memoriæ ' Regi *Ædwardo* successit;' which is almost the same style as he uses in the *Ely* Charter; and the Date of it is in these words: ' Hæc Donatio ' facta est Anno ab incarnatione Domini MCIX, ' in Concilio totius Angliæ apud *Nottingham*; ' *Thomas* Archbishop of *York* is the first who subscribes to it; and among the rest are *Richard* Bp. of *London*, *Robert* Bp. of *Chester*, *Herbert* Bp. of *Norwich*, *Hervey* Bp. of *Ely*, *Robert* Earl of *Mellent*, *William* Earl of *Warren*, and *Gilbert de Aquila*,—seven witnesses, who also subscribed to the *Ely* Charter.

It appears then that the Charter for the erection of the See of *Ely*, carries with it the strongest marks of genuineness that can be required;—and that it was given by the King in a Council held at *Nottingham*, in the year of our Lord 1109; and therefore the Monk must be acquitted of the charge of forging it, and is guilty only of an error in judgment, in placing the erection of the See of *Ely* in the year 1108;—an error the more pardonable in him, as Mr. *Selden* himself fell into the like error of mistaking the Date of this Charter: the only difference between them is this; Mr. *Selden* being convinced that the See of *Ely* was not erected till the year 1109;—and finding a Charter that seems to fix it to the year 1108; concludes it to be a spurious Charter:—the Monk having the same Charter before him, though he was of opinion, that 1109, was the true year; yet relying more on the authority of the Charter, than his own judgment, fixes it to the year 1108.—Both of them were mistaken, but drew different conclusions from their mistakes; the one concludes the Charter spurious; the other distrusts his own judgment, and therefore fixes on a wrong year.—For that the Monk was led into this error by a view of this Charter, appears by his own words which introduce the Charter; he tells us, [Lib. Elien. lib. iii. c. 5.] ' After the Pope ' had given his consent to the erection of the See ' of *Ely*,' (which was without doubt in 1108,)

*Hervey*



‘*Hervey* set out on his return to *England*, and delivered the Pope’s Letters to the King, and to the Archbishop, and obtained their consent;’ (he then adds) ‘and in the following year finished the whole business, viz. in the year of our Lord 1108.’ — He should have said, in the year 1109, for that was the following year. — So that it is plain, in settling his chronology, the Monk was in a right track, which would have led him, had he pursued it, to the year 1109; — but seeing the Charter carried in the front of it 1108, and mistaking it for the Date of it, he stops short, and puts it down as such, without further enquiry.

But there is another objection Mr. *Selden* makes to the Charter; he thinks, the style of it is different from others made in that Age. — No one perhaps was a better judge of the forms and style of ancient Charters than Mr. *Selden*: and yet if one should make a judgment of this Charter, by comparing it with others about the same Age; (many of which may be found in the *Monasticon*, and other Collections;) allowing also for the difference of occasions, and other concomitant circumstances; it would be difficult, I believe, to point out any remarkable peculiarities in this; or to show how it differs from those generally in use, more than they do from one another. There is indeed one word, and only one that Mr. *Selden* objects to, and that is the Title of *Duces*, there used with *Comites* and *Principes*, to express the Temporal Nobility, as distinguished from the Spiritual. — I must own, the Title of *Duces*, as a distinct Title among the Nobility is, as far as I can learn, unusual in that Age; however, the word *Dux* occurs as a general Title of the Temporal Nobility, and is used in that sense by *Malmesbury* one of the best Writers in that reign. [‘*Anglia facta est exterorum habitatio, et alienigenarum dominatio; nullus hodie Anglus Dux, vel Pontifex, vel Abbas, &c.*’ *Malmesb. de Reg. Angl.* pag. 93.] Mr. *Selden* rightly observes, the Title of *Duces* came into disuse at the time of the Conquest, and was not revived as a distinct Title of honour, till the reign of *Edward III.* Nevertheless, I am fully persuaded, if Mr. *Selden* had not first of all been prepossessed with an opinion, that the Charter was spurious, from the seeming inconsistency he thought he had discovered in the Date of it; he would never have made any objection to the Charter merely on that account; he would rather have doubted, whether *Duces* had not been mistaken for some other word by the Transcriber; or, if it had been found in the Original, he would have noted the peculiar acceptance of the word in that place; or, he might have understood it as a general term to express the Temporal Nobility, explained by the following Titles of *Comites* and *Principes*; as thus, the *Duces Regni* the leading Men, in the same sense as *Magnates* is used, which includes the *Comites* and *Principes* of the Kingdom.

Mr. *Wharton*’s objections against this Charter, are the same with those above, and indeed are taken from Mr. *Selden*, without the addition of any thing new against it; and therefore will not require a distinct consideration. But Mr. *Selden* having intimated his suspicion of the Charter, on account of the inconsistency he thought he had discovered in the Date of it; Mr. *Wharton* takes the hint, and without further examination, charges the Monks of *Ely* with forging the Charter; and not only that, but the Letters too, which are said to have been wrote on the occasion by Pope *Paschal* to the King, and Archbishop *Anselm*. And indeed if the charge of forgery against the Monks, with respect to the Charter, had been made good, there might have been some reason to suspect the Letters too, unless they appear to be supported by better authority. But let us hear Mr. *Wharton*’s charge; he says, ‘The Monks of *Ely* being persuaded that the Bishoprick of *Ely* could not have been legally founded, without the authority of the Pope; therefore devised this Charter, and Letters from the Pope: for that they are spurious will appear, if they are compared with the account given by *Eadmer*, who was present at those transactions.’ And then he refers us to a passage in *Eadmer*’s History; [*Eadmeri Historia Nov. lib. iv. pag. 96.*] in which there is not a word that affects the credit either of the Charter or Letters in question. — *Eadmer* there only tells us, “That the affair of erecting a new See at *Ely*, was first debated after Whitfuntide in the Council of London, A. D. 1108, and was agreed to by the King, and the Archbishop, and the other Great Men of the Kingdom: but *Anselm*, to whom that business chiefly belonged, knowing that a new Bishoprick could no where be legally erected without the consent of the Pope, wrote to him for his Confirmation.” [The Letter of *Anselm* to Pope *Paschal*, the Reader may see in this Appendix, Numb. VI. 1.] — Now, says Mr. *Wharton*, *Paschal* never confirmed it during the life of *Anselm*; for which reason, *Anselm* did not suffer it to take place: but *Anselm* dying in May 1109; after that, the Episcopal See was erected at *Ely*, and *Hervey* promoted to it. For thus *Eadmer* relates the affair. [*Historia Nov. lib. iv. p. 104.*] “In the mean time,” (i. e. after the middle of the Year 1109,) “*Hervey* Bishop of *Bangor* was fully translated from his See, which he had quitted long before, and was introned in the new Bishoprick which the King and the Great Men had agreed to be placed in *Ely*, as before related: to obtain which, he had laboured hard by much intreaty, many fair promises, and great attendance; but was not able to accomplish it, till after the death of *Anselm*.” ‘Here (says Mr. *Wharton*)



*Wharton*) 'is no mention of the Pope's Confirmation; but *Eadmer* seems rather to hint the contrary, namely, that the same legal obstacle still subsisted, the defect of the Pope's Licence.'—The reader will easily observe here, that the whole of Mr. *Wharton's* argument is founded on the delays that *Hervey* met with, before he could accomplish his Translation to *Ely*; which he supposes were entirely owing to the Pope's not giving his consent; but may otherwise be more easily accounted for;—by the long absence of the King, who went into *Normandy* before August 1108, and did not return till May 1109; the death of *Anselm* which happened in April, before the King returned to *England*; and the multiplicity of affairs that took up his attention afterwards, particularly his receiving the Embassadors of the Emperor, which was done in the most splendid manner ever known before; and the espousal of his Daughter the Princess *Matilda* to the Emperor.

The citation that Mr. *Wharton* makes from one of Pope *Paschal's* Letters wrote in the year 1115, [*Eadmeri Hist. Nov. lib. iv. pag. 113*] is foreign to the purpose, and relates to the Translation of *Ralph* Bishop of *Rocheſter* to the See of *Canterbury* the year before, by the King, and the Bishops, and Great Men, without consulting the Pope; in that Letter therefore, which is directed to the King and the Bishops of *England*, the Pope complains of the little regard paid to the See of *Rome* in that business, and tells them, 'It had been usual, on such occasions, to consult the Apostolic See;—but you, (says he) determine the affairs of Bishops without consulting us;—you presume to Translate Bishops without our authority, which we know is prohibited to be done, without the authority and leave of the holy See of *Rome*.' This passage, as it does not relate to, so is it in no wise applicable to this case; because in the affair of fixing a Bishoprick at *Ely*, it appears from *Eadmer*, that application was made to the Pope by *Anselm*, for his licence and consent. And indeed Mr. *Wharton* seems to be aware of this defect in his argument, and adds, 'Certainly if the Pope's consent was obtained, yet this History, which relates that the business was finished, and *Hervey* translated to *Ely* in the year 1108, may be proved to be false; for it is evident from *Eadmer*, that it was not accomplished till after the death of *Anselm*, viz. in the year 1109.' And then recurs again to the seeming inconsistencies in the Date of the Charter, on which he lays the chief stress. But these I have considered before, and proved that they arise only from mistaking the true Date of it which is found placed, not at the beginning but at the end of the Charter; and that the Charter was Given and Signed, not in the year 1108, but in the 10th year of King *Henry I. A. D. 1109*.

## NUMB. IX.

*Carta Regis HENRICI I, de Libertatibus Ecclesiæ Eliensis.*—E Lib. Elien. MS. lib. iii. cap. 7. Et e MS. Fol. notat. M. in *Ædibus Dom. Episcopi Elien. Holbourn.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex *Anglorum*, Archiepiscopus, Episcopis, et Abbatibus, et Comitibus, et Baronibus, et Vicecomitibus, et Ministris, et omnibus Fidelibus suis *Francis et Anglis* tocus *Anglie*, Salutem. Sciatis me concessisse *Hervey* Episcopo Episcopatum de *Ely*, cum omnibus terris et possessionibus ad eundem Episcopatum pertinentibus; et Volo et Precipio, ut prefata Ecclesia *Eliensis* habeat honorifice et libere et quiete omnes consuetudines suas infra burgum et extra, in terra et in aqua, et in paludibus, et in plano, et in bosco, videlicet, *Socam* et *Sacam* et *Toll* et *Theam* et *Infangentheof* et *Hamsfocna* et *Grihtbriche* et *Fithwite* et *Ferdwite*, et omnes alias Forisfacturas emendabiles; sicut melius habuit die qua *Ædwardus* Rex vivus et mortuus fuit, et sicut diratiocinatum fuit in tempore Patris mei apud *Keneteford* coram Baronibus Patris mei *Walchelino* Episcopo, *Gosfrido* Episcopo *Constanciensi*, et *Baldewino* Abbate Sancti *Ædmundi*, et *Ivone* *Taillebois*, et *Petro de Valoniis*, et testimonio plurium Scyrrarum; et Sciatis quia non sum guarant. quod aliquis ponat calumpniam in hiis predictis consuetudinibus. Test. *Ranulfo* Cancellario, et *Gileberto de Aquila*, et *Hamone* Dapifero, et *Willielmo de Albeneio*, et *Pagano de Peveril*, et *Will. de Pever. de Dover.* Apud *Castrum Helgoti in Scalopescyra.*

## NUMB. X.

*Carta ejusdem Regis de adquietatione Villæ de Hadham.* Ex iisdem MSS.

**H**ENRICUS Rex *Anglorum*, *Ricardo* Episcopo *London*, et *Hugoni de Bochland*, et omnibus Baronibus, et omnibus fidelibus suis *Francis et Anglis*, de *Hertfordscyra*, Salutem. Sciatis me reddidisse Domino Deo et Sancto *Petro*, et Sancte *Ætheldrede* Virgini, et *Hervey* *Elyensi* Episcopo, Manerium de *Hadham* in pace et in quietudine, amodo et usque in sempiternum, sicut melius Abbatia de *Ely* tenuit tempore Patris mei, et tempore *Ædwardi* Regis; cum *Soca*, et *Saca*, et *Toll*, et *Team*, et *Infangentheof*, infra Burgum et extra; Quod Manerium *Rannulfus* Episcopus *Dunholmensis* injuste tenebat. Teste *Willielmo Winton.* Episcopo, et *Rogero* Episcopo *Saresb.*, et *Roberto* Episcopo *Lincoln*, et *Willielmo* Episcopo *Exonie*, et *Roberto* Episcopo de *Cestria*, et *Johanne* Episcopo de *Bada*, et *Radulfo* Episcopo de *Roveceſtr.* et *Ranulfo* Cancellario, et *R. Comite de Mellent*, et *Gileberto de Aquila*, et *Will. de Alben.* et *H. Dapifero*, et *Nigello de Alben.* &c. Apud *Windresores*,  
\* C in



in Pentecost. in Anno quo Filia Regis data est Imperatori.

## NUMB. XI.

*Carta ejusdem Regis, quod Monachi de Ely quieti sint de Theloneo. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex Anglorum, Vicecomitibus suis, et Ministris Anglie, Salutem. Precipio, ut ubicumque Monachi de Ely poterint invenire Materiem, et Plumbum, et Ferrum, et Petram ad vendendum, et cetera que opus sint ad operationem Ecclesie, quieti sint ab omni Theloneo, et absque Consuetudine. Teste Rogero Bigot. Apud Saltredam.

## NUMB. XII.

*Alia Carta ejusdem Regis, de eodem. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex Angl. Omnibus Vicecomitibus et Ministris suis tocius Anglie, Salutem. Precipio, quod ubicumque Monachi de Ely poterint invenire Materiem, et Plumbum, et Ferrum, et Petram ad emendum, et cetera que opus fuerint ad operationem Ecclesie de Ely, sint ita quieti de Theloneo, et omni Passagio, et Consuetudine, sicut precepi per meum aliud Breve; et nullus eis super hoc injuriam vel contumeliam inde faciat, super Forisfacturam meam. Teste Cancellario. Apud Saltredam.

## NUMB. XIII.

*Carta ejusdem Regis, de concessione Feriæ in Ely, ad Festum Sanctæ Ætheldredæ. E MS. prænominato M.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex Angl. Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Comitibus, Vicecomitibus, Baronibus, et omnibus fidelibus suis tocius Anglie, Salutem. Sciatis me concessisse Deo et Ecclesie de Ely, et Herveo Episcopo habere Feriam in Ely septem diebus, videlicet, 3 diebus ante festum Sanctæ Ætheldredæ, et in Die festivitatis ejusdem, que est in Vigiliis Sancti Johannis Baptiste, et 3 diebus post festum. Et Volo et Precipio firmiter, quod omnes homines ad illam venientes, cum omnibus rebus suis firmam pacem meam habeant in eundo et redeundo; Et nullus eos disturbet, neque injuriam, neque contumeliam faciat, super 10 libr. forisfacture. Teste Roberto Comite Gloucestrie, et Willielmo de Albeneio, et Nigello de Alben. et Johanne Baioc. Apud Wintoniam.

## NUMB. XIV.

*Carta ejusdem Regis, quod homines Sanctæ Ætheldredæ quieti sint a Scyra et Hundreda. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex Anglorum, Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Comitibus, Ba-

ronibus, et omnibus fidelibus suis Francis et Anglis, Salutem. Sciatis me concessisse et quietum clamasse Episcopum Herveum de Ely, et omnes Successores suos Episcopos Ecclesie Sanctæ Ætheldredæ de Ely, quod nullus de dominio suo requiratur vel vadat ad Scyram vel Hundredam; sed Episcopus habeat omnes forisfacturas super homines suos libere et quiete nunc et in perpetuum, sicut melius habuit die qua Rex Edwardus fuit vivus et mortuus; et prohibeo ne inde amodo requiratur, vel donetur, nec propter hoc aliquid de suo capiatur, aut hominum suorum. Hoc autem concedo pro salute anime mee, et statu Regni mei, et pro animabus Patris mei et Matris mee, et Predecessorum et Successorum meorum. Teste Johanne Luxoviense Episcopo, et Roberto de Sigillo, Will. de Tancarvilla, et Will. de Albenio, et Gaufrido de Clintune, et Johanne filio Johannis. Apud Argenton.

## NUMB. XV.

*Carta ejusdem Regis, de Possessionibus Ecclesiæ Eliensis colligendis. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex Anglorum, omnibus Baronibus, et omnibus hominibus Francis et Anglis qui tenent terras de Episcopatu de Ely, Salutem. Volo, et Precipio, et Concedo, ut Ecclesia de Ely, et Herveus Episcopus habeat in dominio suo omnes illas terras, cum hominibus et consuetudinibus quas Symeon Abbas habebat in dominio suo die illa qua fuit vivus et mortuus; nisi illi qui possunt monstrare se tunc recte tenuisse concessu Regis Anglie qui tunc erat, et concessu Symeonis Abbatis et Conventus Ecclesie de Ely. Teste Roberto Comite de Mellent, et Gileberto de Aquila.

## NUMB. XVI.

*Carta ejusdem Regis, contra Invasores terrarum et bonorum Sanctæ Ætheldredæ. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex Anglorum, Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Comitibus, Vicecomitibus, et omnibus Fidelibus tocius Anglie, Salutem. Volo, et Precipio, quod omnes illi qui tenent terras illas, quas Episcopus Elyensis clamat, quas Carta mea Wintonie testatur juratas fuisse ad feudum Ecclesie Elyensis tempore Patris mei, et unde verbum ostensum est coram Justicia mea, recognoscant de Episcopo Elyensi, et faciant ei inde servitium tale quale consideravero, secundum valentiam terrarum. Teste Gaufrido Cancellario, et Gaufrido de Clintune, et Pagano filio Johannis. Apud Sanctum Petrum desuper Divam.

NUMB.



## NUMB. XVII.

*Carta ejusdem Regis, de Libertate Quinque Hundredorum. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex Anglorum, Herberto Episcopo, et Radulfo de Bellaf, et Radulfo Passelewe, et omnibus fidelibus suis Francis et Anglis de Suthfolc, Salutem. Precipio quod Episcopatus de Ely, et Herveus ejusdem loci Episcopus, bene et quiete et honorifice teneat et habeat omnes consuetudines suas, scilicet, Sacham et Socham, et Toll et Theam, et Infangentheof, et Hamfocne, et Grithbriche, et Fidtwhite, et Ferdwite, et omnes alias Forisfacturas in Quinque Hundredis et dimid. de Wiclava, sicut melius habuit ipsa Ecclesia de Ely, eadem die qua Edwardus Rex vivus et mortuus fuit, et sicut dirationatum fuit in tempore Patris mei apud Kenetheford testimonio plurium Scyrrarum, et coram Baronibus Patris mei, videlicet, coram Goisfrido Episcopo Constanciensi, et Walcelino Wintoniensi Episcopo, et Baldewino Abbate de Sancto Ædmando, et Petro de Valoniis, et aliis quampluribus. Et sciatis quod non sum warant. alicui neque de Socha, neque de Sacha, neque de aliqua alia Consuetudine, quod ea habeat in predictis Hundredis, nisi per Elyensem Episcopum. Teste Rannulfo Cancellario, Gilberto de Aquila, et Hamone Dapifero. Apud Castrum Helgoti in Salopesyra.

## NUMB. XVIII.

*Carta ejusdem Regis HENRICI I. de acquietatione, de warda Militum in Castello Regis de Norwic. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex Anglorum, Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Comitibus, Baronibus, Vicecomitibus, et omnibus fidelibus Francis et Anglis tocius Anglie, Salutem. Sciatis me clamasse quietum Episcopum Herveum de Ely, et omnes Successores suos Episcopos de Ely, nunc et usque in sempiternum de warda Militum quam facere solebant in Castello meo de Norwic, et de illis 25s. et 5d. et ob. quos dabant unoquoque anno vigili meo de eodem Castello, de liberatione sua, et de omnibus illis serviciis, omnibus modis, et omnibus operationibus, et rebus universis que fieri solebant predicto Castello de Episcopatu de Ely. Et Concedo quod idem Herveus Episcopus, et omnes Episcopi Successores illius habeant amodo in Insula de Ely, wardam suam de Militibus suis, et omnia servitia sua que prius faciebant in Castello prenominato, ita bene et plenarie sicut ea in Castello plenius fiebant. Hanc autem libertatem et donationem facio Herveo Episcopo, et omnibus Episcopis Successoribus ejus amodo in-

tegram et inconcussam pro salute anime mee, et Patris mei, et Matris mee, in remissionem peccatorum meorum. Teste Rogero Episcopo Saresberienfi, et Alexandro Episcopo Lincolnienfi, et Oino Episcopo Ebroicensi, et Gaufrido Cancellario, Roberto Comite de Gloucestria, Willelmo Comite de Warenne, et Will. de Albeneio, et Briennio filio Comitibus, et Hugone Bigoto, et Milone de Gloucestria, et Gaufrido de Clintune, et Will. de Albeneio Britone, et Will. de Pondelarche. Apud Windresfores.

## NUMB. XIX.

*Carta ejusdem Regis HENRICI I. de Servitio Militum. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex Anglorum, Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Comitibus, &c. Salutem. Sciatis quia Volo, et Concedo, et Precipio, ut omnes illi Barones et Vavassores, qui terras illas tenent quas Carta mea Wintonie de Thesauro meo testatur fuisse juratas tempore Patris mei ad feudum Ecclesie de Ely, recognoscant eas, et teneant de predicta Ecclesia et Episcopo de Ely amodo et in perpetuum, faciendo inde Ecclesie Servitium Milicie secundum tenuras, et secundum hoc quod servitia statuta sunt in eisdem terris; et ita quod Barones et Vavassores easdem terras tenentes, sint quieti erga me, et alios dominos suos, de tanto servitio, quantum inde Episcopo et Ecclesie predictae facere debuerint, in statuto servitio Milicie; et Volo, et Precipio, ut Episcopus et Ecclesia bene, et honorifice, et in pace, et quiete teneant, cum Sacha et Socha, Toll et Theam, et Infangentheof, et cum omnibus aliis consuetudinibus et quietationibus suis, cum quibus melius et quietius et honorabilius aliud feudum suum tenent; et servitium suum de terris predictis illi qui terras tenent amodo faciant Episcopo, ubi Episcopus facit aliud servitium suum de Ecclesia sua. Teste Rogero Saresberienfi Episcopo, et Gaufrido Cancellario, et Roberto de Sigillo, et Will. de Tancarvilla, et Will. de Albeneio Pincerna, et Radulfo Basset, et Gaufrido de Clintune. Apud Eilinges, in transitu meo.

## NUMB. XX.

*Carta ejusdem Regis HENRICI I. de acquietatione 40. sol. de Wardpeni. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex Anglorum, Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Comitibus, Vicecomitibus, et omnibus Fidelibus suis tocius Anglie, Salutem. Sciatis me clamasse quietos amodo usque in sempiternum, Deo et Sancte Ætheldrede, et Ecclesie Elyensi, et Herveo Episcopo, et Successoribus suis, 40 solidos qui re-



quirebantur de terra sua de *Wardpeni*, et de hominibus suis. Et prohibeo, ne amodo requirantur, vel donentur, nec propter hoc aliquid de suo capiatur, vel hominum suorum. Hoc autem concedo pro salute Anime mee, et Statu Regni mei, et pro Animabus Patris et Matris mee, et Conjugis mee *Matildis* Regine, et *Willielmi* Filii mei, et Predecessorum et Successorum meorum. Teste *Johanne Lexoviensi* Episcopo, et *Roberto de Sigillo*, et *Willielmo de Tancarvilla*, et *Willielmo de Albeneio*, et *Gaufrido de Clintune*, et *Johanne fil. Johannis*. Apud *Argenton*.

## NUMB. XXI.

*Carta ejusdem Regis, de relaxatione 40. Librarum Scutagii. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex *Anglorum*, Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Comitibus, &c. Salutem. Sciatis me condonasse Ecclesie Sancte *Ætheldrede de Ely*, pro Dei amore, et anima Patris et Matris mee, et pro redemptione peccatorum meorum, et petitione *Hervei* ejusdem Ecclesie Episcopi, 40. Libras de illis 100. Libris, quas predicta Ecclesia solebat dare de Scutagio, quando Scutagium currebat per terram meam *Anglie*; ita quod Ecclesia amodo in perpetuum non dabit inde nisi 60. Libras, quando Scutagium per terram evenerit; et ita in perpetuum sit de predictis 40. Libris Ecclesia predicta quiesca. Teste *Rogero* Episcopo *Saresberienfi*, *Gaufrido* Cancellario meo, et *Roberto de Sigillo*, et *Will. de Tancarvilla*, et *Will. de Albeneio* Pincerna, et *Radulfo Basset*, et *Gaufrido de Clintune*, et *Will. de Pondelarche*. Apud *Eilinges* in transitu meo.

## NUMB. XXII.

*Carta Regis HENRICI I. de Concessione Abbacie de Chateris Ecclesie Eliensi. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex *Anglorum*, Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Comitibus, Vicecomitibus, Baronibus, et omnibus Fidelibus totius *Anglie*, Salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse Deo et Ecclesie *Elyensi*, et *Herveo* Episcopo in Elemosinam, Abbatiam de *Chateris*, cum terris, et possessionibus, et omnibus rebus eidem Abbacie pertinentibus. Et Volo, et Precipio firmiter, ut bene et in pace teneat, et quiete et honorifice, cum Sacha et Socha, et Toll et Theam, et Infangenetheof, et omnibus Conſuetudinibus et Libertatibus, sicut melius et quietius, et honorificentius tenet alias terras suas de Episcopatu de *Ely*. Teste *Gaufrido* Cancellario, et *Willielmo de Albeneio* Pincerna, et *Gaufrido de Clintune*, et *Pagano filio Johannis*. Apud Sanctum Petrum desuper *Divam*.

## NUMB. XXIII.

*Carta ejusdem Regis HENRICI I. de Libertate Hundredorum Sancte Ætheldredæ. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex *Angl.* Omnibus Baronibus qui terras tenent in Hundredis Episcopi de *Ely*, Salutem. Precipio vobis, quod veniatis ad placita Hundredarum Episcopi, per summonitionem servientium Episcopi, ita bene et plenarie sicut melius vos et homines vestri soletis venire, ex tempore Patris mei, et Fratris, et meo postea; et sicut venire debetis, ne placitum vel restitudo Ecclesie remaneant pro penuria Judicantium. Et facite Episcopo quicquid facere soliti estis Antecessoribus suis et ipsi postea, sicut facere debetis. Teste Cancellario. Apud *Helling*.

## NUMB. XXIV.

*Alia Carta ejusdem Regis, ne homines Episcopatus Eliensis placitent, nisi ubi solebant placitare. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex *Angl.* Omnibus Vicecomitibus in quorum Vicecomitatibus *Herveus* Episcopus de *Ely* habet terram, Salutem. Nolo ut homines de Episcopatu alibi placitent de placitis unde implacitati fuerint nisi ubi solebant placitare in tempore *Edwardi* Regis, et tempore Patris mei et Fratris. Teste Cancellario. Apud \* *Clivam*.

## NUMB. XXV.

*Carta ejusdem Regis, quod Res Abbacie æquo et justo modo dividantur. Ex iisdem MSS.*

**H**ENRICUS Rex *Anglorum*, Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Comitibus, Vicecomitibus, et omnibus Fidelibus suis *Francis* et *Anglis* totius *Anglie*, Salutem. Sciatis quod Volo et Concedo et Precipio, ut Monachi de *Ely*, de sua Abbacia habeant justam portionem et equam divisionem, secundum morem et jus Ecclesiasticum, in rebus omnibus, videlicet, terris, possessionibus, dignitatibus, et bonis que proprie usui eorum ac sustentationi fidelium largitione illis donate sunt atque concessæ, cum sollempniter et integre ipsa Abbacia fuerit in Episcopatum commutata. Et Nolo ut inde aliquam molestiam sive minorationem patiantur, sed equanimitè eorum portio et res totius Abbacie dividantur ab invicem, et per sacramentum bonorum et fidelium hominum de honore Sancte *Ætheldrede* diligenter inquisite scripto adsignentur, et ad victum eorum atque necessitates amodo deputate libere et quiete permaneant, nec quisquam super his inquietare

\* Al. *Divam*, vel *Divam*.



quietare eos presumat. Teste *Randulfo* Cancellario, et *Gileberto de Aquila*, *Haimo*. Dapifero, et *Will. de Alben.* et *Pagano Pever.* Apud *Castrum Helgoti in Scalopescyra.*

NUMB. XXVI.

*Carta HERVEI Episcopi Eliensis, de rebus quas permittit et concessit Monachos habere. Ex iisdem MSS. — et ex alio MS. Dom. Episcopi Eliensis, Notat. A.*

**H**ERVEUS Dei gracia *Elyensis* Ecclesie Episcopus primus, Universis Ecclesie filiis, tam presentibus quam futuris, Salutem. Cum, Deo disponente, Cenobium *Elyense* regimini meo foret commissum, Cenobiique nomine deleto, in Episcopii dignitatem, Dompni Pape *Paschalis* auctoritate, et Principis nostri *Henrici* consensu, Procerumque suorum consilio, commutatum fuisset; Decrevi necessaria Monachorum a rebus Episcopalibus separare. Monachorum quippe necessaria prius per omnem ejusdem Cenobii potestatem communiter capiebantur. Ego vero si eodem modo in posterum maneret, aliquam tali de causa seditionem timens pullulare, res Monachorum a rebus Episcopalibus separatim ordinavi; et ad ipsorum necessaria, eisdem ad horam assentientibus, hec subscripta illos separatim possidere permisi; et ut permissa et divisa sunt, nisi quid a posteris meis erga eos liberalius fiat, in perpetuum manere concedo. Terrarum igitur nomina hec sunt, *Infra Insulam, Suthona, Wicham, Wichesford, Wintewortha, Tidbrithseia, Stunteneia* cum xxiii. milibus anguillarum que adjacent *Manerio*; et omnes apportatus et oblationes Altarium Matris Ecclesie, ad sustentandas ejusdem Ecclesie necessitates; et Ecclesiam Sancte *Marie de Ely*, cum terris, et decimis, et omnibus rebus ad ipsam Ecclesiam pertinentibus, et nominatim tota decima de *Bertona* mea, et una *Vaccaria* in *Biela*, [*Beele*, MS. A.] et *Stretham*, sub hac divisione, ut due partes pertineant ad Domum Hospitalitatis, tertia vero ad necessaria Monachorum; Quatuor quoque pensas casei in *Dereforda*; et sex pensas salis in *Tirentona*; quin etiam ligna in *Somersham* et in *Bluntesham*, sicut melius habuerunt tempore Predecessorum meorum; et super ripam de *Bluntesham*, una Mansura terre cum quinque acris, ubi colligantur ligna; et cum octo acris prati, unde pascantur boves qui ligna attrahunt; Vineam etiam suam in *Ely*, sicut habuerunt antequam ad Episcopatum venirem; et sex Piscatores ad piscandum in aquis ubi solebant, cum eorum mansionibus. Extra *Insulam*, in *Cantebrigescyra, Hauechestuna, Newetona, Sceldford, Meldeburna, Melretha, Suafham*; et duodecim *Sceppe* frumenti et brassi, quas debent heredes *Hardwini de Sculariis*. In

*Suthfolc, Bergham, Winestona, Stoca, Meltona, Baldreseia, Suthburna, Brihtwella* cum *Rixemera* Socha quoque Quinque Hundredorum et dimidii, *Lachingeia, Undeleia, Sceppeia, Fotesthorp* ad mandatum Monachorum; et Triginta milia *Alecium* de *Dunawico*; Concedo eis etiam omnes Servientes suos de omnibus ministeriis suis, ut eos cum suis mansuris libere possideant. Permitto preterea ut habeant et libere possideant universa dona, que eisdem ante tempus Episcopatus mei, sive tempore meo data sunt, vel in posterum dabuntur, sive in terris, sive in ecclesiis, sive in decimis, sive in piscariis, sive in denariis, sive in quocumque redditu, quem eis quilibet fidelium hactenus contulerit, sive postmodum collaturus sit. Omnia autem prescripta, insuper et Curiam suam ipsis concedo, cum universis libertatibus et consuetudinibus que in terris, que mei juris sunt, servantur, nichil prorsus excipiens; ita ut aliquis posterorum meorum de ipsorum rebus nichil omnino se intromittat, nisi quod eosdem cum omnibus possessionibus suis fideliter et indefinenter protegat et manuteneat. Siquis vero malignitatis spiritu commotus, hanc nostram Concessionem et Donationem infringere, contempnere, vel abicere voluerit, a Deo, et ab omnibus Sanctis ejus sit condemnatus, et a Nobis, in quantum licet, excommunicatus, et a consortio fidelium separatus, nisi resipiscat. Fiat, Fiat. Amen.

NUMB. XXVII.

*An Historical Account of the ROYAL FRANCHISE of Ely; by the Rev. Mr. Warren Rector of Leverington in the Isle of Ely, and Chaplain to the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Ely.*

**I**N the time of the Heptarchy,<sup>a</sup> as well as for several centuries after, it was usual for the Kings to invest some of their principal Subjects with a jurisdiction in all matters, both civil and criminal, within certain districts. *Tonbert*, a great Nobleman of the East Angles in the seventh century, seems to have been absolute Proprietor<sup>b</sup> of a jurisdiction of this kind throughout the Isle of Ely; which, together with other estates in the said Isle, he settled on *Etheldreda*, the daughter of *Anna* King of the East Angles, whom *Tonbert* married in 652; and dying about three years after, *Etheldreda* became possessed of this jurisdiction in right of her marriage-settlement.<sup>c</sup> In 673, *Etheldreda* founded a Monastery at Ely; and endowed it with many valuable estates in that country, and elsewhere, and settled on it also her temporal jurisdiction throughout the Isle; the profits of which were, probably at that time, considerable.<sup>d</sup> In 870, the Danes rifled and burnt the Monastery of Ely;<sup>e</sup> and the year after, *Borrhed*,<sup>f</sup> King of Mercia,

<sup>a</sup> Camden. <sup>b</sup> Pag. 45, 46. supra. <sup>c</sup> Pag. 46. supra. <sup>d</sup> Pag. 54. supra. <sup>e</sup> *Milton in Kennet* Vol. 1. p. 55. <sup>f</sup> Pag. 64. supra.



Mercia, taking advantage of the great confusion and disorder, which the Danes had occasioned in the Isle of Ely, seized the estates of the Monastery; and annexed the right of jurisdiction to his own Crown.<sup>s</sup> Borhred did not long enjoy these new acquisitions, as the Danes deprived him of all his territories about three years after, and forced him to fly into foreign parts.<sup>h</sup> In the year 876, King Alfred, having expelled the Danes out of Mercia, added that kingdom to his other dominions; and, by that means, became possessed of the temporal jurisdiction throughout the Isle of Ely; which, as we observed just now, had been annexed to the Crown of Mercia by Borhred, the late unfortunate King.<sup>i</sup> During these troubles, the Monastery of Ely lay in ruins, and no attempts were made to rebuild it for some years; till at length a few Ecclesiastics, encouraged by King Alfred, and the Inhabitants of Ely, repaired the Isles of the old Church, as well as their circumstances would admit; and set up the publick worship of God in it.<sup>k</sup> It does not appear what particular estates King Alfred settled on this small Society; but, it is pretty certain, that he did not invest it with any part of that temporal jurisdiction, which the old Monastery enjoyed.<sup>l</sup> This mark of Royal Favour was not conferred till the next century; when King Edgar, by his Charter in the thirteenth year of his reign, A. D. 970, refounded the Monastery of Ely; and endowed it with very large possessions, and, among other valuable privileges, restored to it the temporal jurisdiction throughout the Isle of Ely.<sup>m</sup> This Charter of Edgar is very long; but all that relates to our purpose, is contained in these few words, viz. *Ego Edgarus Rex &c. intra paludes causas seculares duorum centuriatum, et extra paludes quinque centuriatum in Wichlarwe in Provinciâ Orientalium Saxonum benignè ad fratrum necessaria sanciendo largior.* The two hundreds, mentioned in this Charter as being within the fens, include the whole Isle of Ely: The five hundreds without the fens lie in Suffolk, are commonly called Saint Etheldreda's Liberties, and belong now to the Dean and Chapter of Ely; but as the jurisdiction, which the Dean and Chapter claim in these hundreds, is no part of my present inquiry, I shall take no further notice concerning that matter.<sup>n</sup> The words in Edgar's Charter being general; it is difficult to gather from thence, what kind of jurisdiction was granted to the Monastery by means of them; but, as it was usual in those times, for

the Crown to invest private persons with a power of judging in all matters, arising within a certain district, it is very probable, that the jurisdiction granted here by Edgar, was intended to be very full and compleat, and, in every respect, truly Regal; especially, as this business was managed by Dunstan and Ethelwold;<sup>o</sup> who were the Restorers of Monckery in the tenth century, and had great influence over the King.<sup>p</sup> This Charter has been always considered as the foundation of that temporal jurisdiction, which the Monastery of Ely continued to exercise (with very little interruption) from the time it was refounded, till the Bishoprick was erected; and which hath, from that time, as will appear presently, been vested in the See of Ely.

The next Charter, relating to this Franchise, was from Edward the Confessor; and though it has no date, yet if it were necessary, it would not be difficult to fix pretty exactly about what year it was granted.<sup>q</sup> The clause in the Confessor's Charter, which it may be proper to cite on this occasion, is as follows, viz. *Insuper omnia a quocunque adjecta, vel adjicienda, bonorum testimonio possessa cum omni sachâ et sochâ sine aliquâ exceptione secularis vel ecclesiastice justitie illi Monasterio damus, data quietâ clamamus eâdem quâ Sancti Viri illud glorificaverunt libertate, quò neque Episcopus, nec Comes, nec alicujus exactionis Minister, sine licentiâ vel advocacione Abbatis et Fratrum, ullo modo se presumat intromittere.*<sup>r</sup> We observed just now, that the words in Edgar's Charter were so general, that it was difficult to explain what powers and privileges were given to the Monastery by means of them; but, the words, in the Charter now before us, being much more particular, plainly shew, that the Monastery of Ely was to be exempt from episcopal jurisdiction, and to have so full an authority in all temporal matters arising within the Isle of Ely, that no officer of the Crown was to intermeddle, unless called in by the Abbot and Monks.

Many eminent Writers of British Antiquities<sup>s</sup> accuse the Monks of forging Royal Grants and Charters; and there is reason to believe, that they often had recourse to such scandalous practices; but, there is no room to suspect, that the Charters now referred to were forged; as there is no fact in our early history better attested, than that of King Edgar's refounding the Monastery of Ely, and restoring to it all its antient privileges: And with respect to Edward the Confessor's Charter, that is indeed more full and

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<sup>s</sup> Pag. 69. supra. <sup>h</sup> Milton in Kennet vol. i. p. 56. <sup>i</sup> Ibid. <sup>k</sup> Pag. 70. supra. <sup>l</sup> Ibid. <sup>m</sup> Bishop of Ely's Regist. Liber M. pag. 64, 65, 66. <sup>n</sup> Pag. 73. supra. <sup>o</sup> Pag. 71, 72. supra. <sup>p</sup> Milton in Kennet vol. i. pag. 63. <sup>q</sup> King Edward's charter, according to Liber Eliensis MS, was confirmed by Pope Victor II. soon after the King had granted it; and as Victor II was advanced to the Popedom in April 1055 and died in June 1057, this Charter was granted A. D. 1056, or thereabouts. See Bower's Hist. of the Popes Vol. 5. pag. 203-206, and the Bull of Victor II. in the Bishop of Ely's Regist. Lib. M. pag. 1. <sup>r</sup> Bishop of Ely's Regist. Lib. M. pag. 70, 71, 72. <sup>s</sup> Camden, Selden and others.



particular than Edgar's; but it does not, I apprehend, grant any new privileges, but only confirms the old, of which the Monks were in quiet possession, when this Charter was granted; so that supposing them capable of committing so base a fraud, yet it was hardly worth their while for so small an advantage; and besides, it is very certain, that they could have no occasion to make use of any indirect means in the present case, as Edward the Confessor was, according to the character our historians give of him, ready enough to bestow favours of this kind.

From the time of this Grant by Edward the Confessor nothing remarkable occurs concerning this franchise till the reign of William the Conqueror; who, having met with great opposition from the Monks of Ely, took away some of their estates, and made them redeem others by a heavy fine, and entirely deprived them of all their Royalties, as well in the Isle of Ely, as elsewhere;<sup>c</sup> but, in the year 1080, or thereabouts, the King was pleased to restore to the Abbot and Monks of Ely the same powers and privileges as they were in possession of at the death of Edward the Confessor. William the Conqueror's Charter runs in these words viz. *Willielmus Anglorum Rex omnibus Fidelibus suis &c. Precipio ut Abbatia de Ely habeat omnes consuetudines suas scilicet Sacham et Socham, Tol et Team et Infangenethef, Hamfocna et Grithbriche, Fithwite et Ferdwite, infra Burgum et extra, et omnes alias Forisfacturas, que emendabiles sunt in terrâ suâ super suos homines: has, inquam, habeat, sicut habuit die, quâ Rex Edwardus fuit vivus et mortuus.*<sup>u</sup>

Henry the first, in the 10th year of his reign, A. D. 1109, founded the Bishoprick of Ely out of a part of the revenues of the Abbey, and converted the Abbey into a Conventual Church;<sup>x</sup> and, immediately after, gave a charter, by which he allowed that the Church of Ely should continue to have the same Privileges and Liberties, as it had *die, quâ Edwardus vivus et mortuus fuit.*<sup>y</sup> It will be proper to observe here, that, after the Bishoprick was founded, the Charters concerning the Liberties, which were granted by several of the succeeding Kings, were not granted to the Bishop solely, but to the Bishop, Prior and Convent jointly;<sup>z</sup> but as the Abbots, before the Bishoprick was founded, used to exercise the temporal Jurisdiction throughout the Isle of Ely independently of the other Members of the Church; so the Bishops being in the place of the Abbots, always considered themselves to be in like manner invested with this Jurisdiction, and accordingly exercised it inde-

pently of the Prior and Convent; who were however permitted to have great powers and privileges within the circuits of their several Manors in the Isle of Ely.<sup>a</sup>

These private jurisdictions, by the frequent Grants of our Kings, became at length so numerous, that they deprived the Crown of a great part of it's authority and revenue: for which reason Edward the first, a wise and politic Prince, was resolved, by some means or other, to resume these franchises, and to vest them again in the Crown; and, it being suggested to the King, that few or none of the Nobility, Clergy, or Commonalty, who had Franchises by means of Grants from the King's Predecessors, could produce their Charters; It was openly proclaimed that every man, that held those liberties or other possessions by Grant from any of the King's Progenitors, should, before certain selected persons thereunto appointed, shew *quo jure quove nomine ill' retinerent*: Whereupon many of these Liberties were taken into the King's hands; because the Charters or Grants, under which they were claimed, could not be produced:<sup>b</sup> But this way of proceeding being contrary to Law gave great offence to the nation;<sup>c</sup> which as soon as the King perceived, the Statute of *Quo Warranto* was enacted, which quieted the minds of the people, and, at the same time, very well served the King's purpose; as all Franchises, which any one had, either by Grant or Prescription, ought, according to this Statute, to be claimed before the Justices in Eyre at their next sitting in the County, where the Franchise lay; and, in case no claim was made, or when made, not proved to the satisfaction of the Justices in Eyre, such Liberties were lost, and taken into the King's hands.<sup>d</sup> This Statute was made at Gloucester in the 6th of Ed. 1. and published in the 30th of his reign, and under that year it generally occurs in our Statute-books.<sup>e</sup>

There can be no doubt but that proper care was taken to claim the Franchise of the Isle of Ely at the next Eyre for the County of Cambridge after the passing of this Statute; though nothing of this kind appears on record till the 32d year of Edward the first; when Robert Orford, Bishop of Ely, sent his Steward to the Justices in Eyre at Cambridge to claim the Franchise of the Isle of Ely:<sup>f</sup> and, in the 8th year of Edward the Second, John Keeton, Bishop of Ely, sent his Steward to Cambridge, to interpose a claim of the like kind.<sup>g</sup> Both these claims were inquired into by the Justices in Eyre, and allowed. In the 15th year of Edward the

<sup>\*</sup> Daniel in Kennet Vol. 1. pag. 106. <sup>u</sup> Bishop of Ely's Regist. Liber M. pag. 72, 73. <sup>x</sup> Wharton's Angl. Sac. Vol. i. 615. <sup>y</sup> Bishop of Ely's Regist. Lib. M. pag. 75. <sup>z</sup> Bishop of Ely's Regist. Liber M. pag. 81, 92, 129. <sup>a</sup> Bishop of Ely's Regist. Liber M. pag. 124, 125, 126. <sup>b</sup> Coke 2 Inst. pag. 280. <sup>c</sup> Ibid. <sup>d</sup> Coke 2 Inst. pag. 281. <sup>e</sup> Coke 2. Inst. pag. 279. <sup>f</sup> Exemplificatio Libertatum ecclesiæ Elien. Bishop's Regist. Liber P. 8. Ibid.



the 3d, at the Assizes at Cambridge complaint was made to the Court, that no Jurymen appeared from the Isle of Ely, though a precept had been sent to the Bailiff of the Isle to empanel Jurymen for the Hundreds of Wisbech and Witchford; but, as the summoning of the Inhabitants of the Isle to serve on Juries for the County, was an encroachment on the Liberties of the Church of Ely; Simon Montacute, then Bishop, sent his Attorney to Cambridge to claim the franchise of the Isle of Ely; and on his exhibiting an authentic copy of the proceedings in the cause of Bishop Keeton, the Court allowed Bishop Montacute's claims.<sup>h</sup>

It hath been observed, in the course of this inquiry, that the words, in the several Charters, were so general, that it was difficult to explain what particular powers and privileges, the Monastery, and afterwards the See of Ely, were entitled to by virtue of those Charters; but, this difficulty will be, in a great measure, cleared up, by considering the several claims, which the Bishops, *Orford*, *Keeton* and *Montacute*, made before the King's Justices in Eyre at Cambridge; as these claims are drawn up with much more exactness and precision than the old Charters; which were probably framed by Monks, and, according to their manner, in very obscure and vague terms. I have put down these claims at full length in the collection of records at the end of this Account; and as they were, in every respect, allowed, there is no room to doubt but that the Bishop of Ely did formerly appoint the several Justices for the Isle by commissions in his own name and under his own seal; and, that he had a Court as well for determining all pleas of the Crown, as all other matters arising within the said Isle.<sup>i</sup>

Besides this Exemplification<sup>k</sup> of the Liberties of the Church of Ely in the 18th year of Edward the Third, from whence I have extracted some of the foregoing articles, other Exemplifications were granted in succeeding reigns, and many Writs *pro allocandis Libertatibus Ep̄o Eliensi*; and in particular, several for allowing the Bishop all fines, amerciaments, forfeitures, goods of felons of themselves, &c. for, as this was the only part of the Jurisdiction, from which any profit could arise to the See of Ely, the Bishops seem to have been on that account, the more frequently called on by the Crown to shew their claim in this respect.<sup>l</sup>

But, though the Bishop of Ely might antiently have had a power of hearing and determining all pleas of the Crown, as well as all other matters arising within the Isle of Ely; yet,

in the Reign of Edward the Second, and perhaps earlier, when the King's Justices in Eyre were sitting at Cambridge, it was usual for the Bishop of Ely to send his Steward or Attorney for a copy of the King's Commission; which being brought to Ely, the Bishop's Justices were obliged to proceed, in the Administration of Justice, according to the form and tenor thereof, as appears from the following charge, which the Justices in Eyre gave to the Bishop's Attorney, on their delivering to him a transcript of the King's Commission, viz. *Et dictum est eidem Attornato quod celeris justitia ibidem [i. e. infra Insulam Eliensem] exhibeatur juxta formam Commissionis Domini Regis Justiciariis hic directe, cujus transcriptum eidem Attornato in Curia liberatur.*<sup>m</sup> It may be difficult to say, how long this practice of sending a transcript of the King's Commission to the Bishop's Justices continued, but it was probably left off before the time of Henry the 8th, or very early in his reign; as that King issued a Commission under the Great Seal, on the 18th of November 1515, empowering certain persons therein named, to deliver the Prisoners confined in the Gaol at Ely;<sup>n</sup> and what is well worthy of notice, Nicholas West, then Bishop of Ely, granted a Commission likewise under his hand and Seal for the same purpose, bearing date the same day as the King's Commission, and constituting the same persons Commissioners;<sup>o</sup> which seems to imply, that the Bishop apprehended that his authority, in this case, was disputable; and therefore, rather than give it up entirely, he had recourse to this contrivance; which was probably often made use of in those days, as well as in much later times;<sup>p</sup> But the claim, which the Bishop and other Lords of Franchises affected to keep up by this device, was totally taken away by a Statute in the 27th of Hen. 8, which gave a general and important blow to all these private jurisdictions; As it took from the Lords of all Franchises the power of Pardon, and also the power of naming Justices of Eyre, of Assize, of Peace, and of Gaol-delivery; and what this Statute took from the Lords of Franchises, it gave to the Crown; and, in order to abolish even the form of the antient authority, when the reality was gone, it ordained that all Writs and Process within Liberties shall be made in the name and stile of the King, and only the *Teste* in the name of the Proprietor of the Franchise:<sup>q</sup> And, agreeably to this Statute, *Justices of Assize, of Peace, and of Gaol-Delivery* for the Isle of Ely, are now made by Letters Patent under the Great Seal, and all Writs run in the King's name, *Teste* the Bishop,

<sup>h</sup> Ibid. <sup>i</sup> Collection of records Num.b. 1. 2. 3. <sup>k</sup> This Exemplification was granted under the Great Seal 18 Ed. 3d. and is enrolled in the Exchequer in the Roll of Patents under the 28th of Ed. 3d. <sup>l</sup> Bishop of Ely's Registr. Lib. B et M. passim. <sup>m</sup> Exemplification in the 18 Ed. 3d. <sup>n</sup> Bishop West's Register. <sup>o</sup> Ibid. <sup>p</sup> Dairymple's History of Feudal property Cap. 7 throughout. <sup>q</sup> 27 H. 8. c. 24.



Bishop, as Lord of the Franchise. It will not be improper to observe here, that the Bishop of Ely, and his temporal Steward, (for the time being,) are constituted by this Act Justices of the Peace within the said Isle, for ever.<sup>r</sup>

The Chief Justice of the Isle of Ely is appointed by Letters Patent under the hand and Seal of the Bishop, and holds his Office, *quàm diu se benè gesserit*.<sup>s</sup> By virtue of this Patent from the Bishop, the Chief Justice hears and determines all Pleas, real, mixt, and personal, at the suit of any persons whatsoever, in the Isle of Ely; and, as he is of the *Quorum* in the Commissions from the King, he tries also all the Pleas of the Crown arising within the said Isle. The several Officers under the Chief Justice are appointed likewise by the Bishop: some of whom are Patentees for life, and others during pleasure only. The High Bailiff, Clerk of the Peace, Clerk of the Crown and Assize, and Custos Rotulorum,<sup>t</sup> are Patentees for life; but the Coroners hold their Offices, during the Bishop's pleasure only.<sup>u</sup>

In the Statute *De excommunicato capiendo*, the Isle of Ely is said to be a Liberty, within which the King's Writ runneth not; and a particular process, in the case of a *Significavit* for the Isle of Ely, is directed by that act;<sup>x</sup> but, notwithstanding this, the King's Writ runs now in the Isle of Ely, and no attempt has been made of late to stop it.

From the passing of this Act, I find nothing of any consequence concerning this jurisdiction, till the 18th year of Charles the Second; when Bishop *Wren* sent his Attorney to the Court of King's Bench, (then sitting at the Castle at *Windsor*,) to claim in general the Franchise of the Isle of Ely, and to demand in particular that a certain cause, arising within the said Isle, which had been begun in the Court of King's Bench, might be removed from thence, and ordered to be heard by the Bishop's Chief Justice; it being a matter, of which the Bishop's Court had cognizance. The claim, which Bishop *Wren* made, was, after proper inquiry, allowed, and the cause was removed out of the Court of King's Bench, and a day fixed for trying it at *Witbech* by the Bishop's Chief Justice.<sup>y</sup> This seems to have been a very remarkable case; and yet one would imagine that it was soon forgotten, or totally disregarded; as it has been a common practice for many years, to begin suits in the King's Courts concerning such matters a-

rising within the Isle of Ely, as not only might, but ought, according to the Judgment given in the case of Bishop *Wren*, to have been tried by the Bishop of Ely's Chief Justice only; and, as it is very usual likewise to remove causes out of the Bishop's Court into the King's Courts by Writs of *Certiorari*, the business on the Pleas-side has, on both these accounts, been much on the decline for many years.

Fines, Amerciaments, Forfeitures of Recognizances, and all other forfeitures, and also Post-fines on the alienation of lands within the Isle of Ely, belong to the Bishop; but, as the profits, arising from thence, are not equal to the Bishop's expences for Officers, Salaries, &c. this Jurisdiction, when considered as a matter of gain, is not worth having; yet, as it gives the See of Ely some peculiar powers and privileges, no Bishop would be willing to part with it: But, with respect to the Inhabitants of the Isle, this Franchise is a matter of great convenience; since, besides other advantages, they have justice administered as it were at their very doors, in all pleas of the Crown; and, in most civil cases, they need not, unless they think fit, have recourse to any other place for justice, but the Bishop's Court of Pleas belonging to this jurisdiction.<sup>z</sup>

From what has been said, we may venture to pronounce that this Franchise is one of the most antient of the kind in the whole kingdom, as we have traced it as far back as the Seventh Century; and as it is probably the most antient, so does it contain a larger district; and has more powers and privileges belonging to it than any other Franchise, except that of the Bishop of Durham; which not only takes in a greater tract of Country, than the Isle of Ely, but it still retains all Regal Rights,<sup>a</sup> such only excepted, as were taken away by the Act for *Recontinuing Liberties in the Crown*.<sup>b</sup>

*Collection of Records referred to in the foregoing Historical Account, &c.*

I.

— **V**ENIT Robertus Episcopus Eliensis  
per Robertum de Maddynglee, fescallum suum, loco ipsius Episcopi, et petit libertates suas et ecclesiæ suæ, et clamat nomine dicti Episcopi Insulam Eliensem liberam et quietam ab omni exactione regali, et cognitionem omnium placitorum Coronæ tam de felo-

<sup>r</sup> Ibid. Sect. 20. <sup>s</sup> Bishop of Ely's Regist. of Patents. <sup>t</sup> 3 et 4 Ed. 6. c. 1. Sect 5. <sup>u</sup> Bishop of Ely's Regist. of Patents. <sup>x</sup> 5 Eliz. cap. 23. Sect. 11. <sup>y</sup> Collection of records at the end of this Historical Account. N<sup>o</sup>. 4. and Bishop's Regist. Lib. R. fol. 206. <sup>z</sup> It appears from divers records among the Archives belonging to the See of Ely, that the Bishop's Chief Justice used to hold pleas for levying fines and suffering common recoveries for the assurance of lands within the Isle of Ely; but a doubt being made about thirty years ago concerning the authority of the Bishop's Chief Justice in this respect, no fines have been levied, nor common recoveries suffered in the Bishop's Court of Pleas since that time. It is very remarkable that the power of the Bishop's Chief Justice in this particular was not questioned much sooner; as Sir Edward Coke has expressly said, *That a fine cannot be levied, to have the force of a final Concord by any that hath power tenere placita, but only before the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas*. See Coke 2. Infl. p. 515. <sup>a</sup> Spearman's account of the County Palatine of Durham. <sup>b</sup> 27 Hen. 8. C. 24.



‘feloniis et transgressionibus in Insulâ Eliensi  
 ‘factis, quàm de terris et tenementis in eâdem  
 ‘insulâ existentibus, et quòd Justiciarii Domini  
 ‘Regis, quicunque fuerint, de aliquibus placitis  
 ‘prædictam insulam tangentibus, seu alii Ministri  
 ‘Domini Regis, intromittere seu ingredi ad ali-  
 ‘quod officium exercendum aliquo sensu non  
 ‘debent. Et pretereà Senescallus clamat nomine  
 ‘ipsius Episcopi, quòd prædictus Episcopus, per  
 ‘Justiciarios suos loco ipsius Episcopi possit et  
 ‘debeat placitare, et terminare omnia placita  
 ‘prædicta, sicut temporibus retroactis, in itinere  
 ‘Justiciariorum et aliorum quorumcunque Assign-  
 ‘natorum, allocari et fieri consueverunt.’

2.

‘— **V**ENIT quidam Johannes de Can-  
 ‘tabrigiâ, Senescallus Episcopi Eli-  
 ‘ensis, et clamat habere nomine prædicti Epif-  
 ‘copi, Domini sui, diversas libertates in Comi-  
 ‘tatu Cantabrigiæ, viz. infra Insulam suam E-  
 ‘liensem, retorum omnium brevium Regis, et  
 ‘Ministorum suorum, ac cognitionem omnium  
 ‘placitorum, tam de Coronâ quam de aliis qui-  
 ‘buscunque per Ministros ipsius Episcopi fa-  
 ‘ciend. ita quòd nullus Minister Domini Regis  
 ‘ad aliquod officium in eâdem insulâ exercend.  
 ‘ingredi seu intromittere debeat.’

3.

*The Charters of Edgar, Edward the Confessor,  
 Richard the First, and Edward the Second  
 are recited in Bishop Montacute's claim, and  
 then follow these words, viz.*

‘**V**IRTUTE quarum concessionum et ver-  
 ‘borum generalium prædictus Abbas,  
 ‘qui tunc fuit, et Fratres ejusdem loci, et Suc-  
 ‘cessores sui, a tempore concessionum prædic-  
 ‘tarum, sine interruptione aliqua, et postea  
 ‘post creationem Abbatis ejusdem loci in Epif-  
 ‘copum, omnes Episcopi loci prædicti, Præde-  
 ‘cessores Episcopi, qui nunc est, usi sunt, quòd  
 ‘quandocunque aliquis tenens aut residens infra  
 ‘eandem insulam implacitatus fuerit per extrin-  
 ‘secos, de aliquâ re vel causâ infra eandem in-  
 ‘sulam emergente, coram aliquibus Judicibus  
 ‘fæcularibus, placitum illud triandum fuit co-  
 ‘ram Justiciariis dicti Episcopi apud Ely: Et  
 ‘similiter habuerunt cognitionem, et jurisdic-  
 ‘tionem omnium placitorum infra insulam  
 ‘prædictam emergentium, tam placitorum Co-  
 ‘ronæ et aliorum placitorum ex Officio, quàm  
 ‘ad sectam partium, per Justiciarios suos pro-  
 ‘prios inquirend. audiend. et triand.’

4.

‘*Termino Sancti Hillarii Anno Regni Domini Caroli  
 ‘Secundi nunc Regis Angliæ &c. xviii.* Rot. 229.  
 ‘Cantab.

‘**M**EMORANDUM quòd die Martis,  
 ‘&c. coram Domino Rege apud Cas-  
 ‘trum de Windsor venit Edvardus Grange per

‘Samuelem Wall, Attornatum suum, et protu-  
 ‘lit hic in curiâ dicti D. Regis tunc ibidem  
 ‘quandam Billam suam versus Theophilum  
 ‘Simpson in custodiâ Mariscalli, &c. et sunt  
 ‘plegii de prosecutione, scilicet Johannes Doe  
 ‘et Richardus Roë, quæ quidem Billa se-  
 ‘quitur in his verbis, Cantab. Edvardus  
 ‘Grange queritur de Theophilo Simpson in cus-  
 ‘todiâ Mariscalli D. Regis coram ipso Rege &c.  
 ‘pro eo viz. Quòd cum quidam Arthurus  
 ‘Young generosus, tricesimo die Septembris  
 ‘Anno Regni Domini Caroli Secundi nunc  
 ‘Regis Angliæ &c. decimo septimo apud Down-  
 ‘ham in Comitatu prædicto dimississet, concef-  
 ‘sisset et ad firmam tradidisset præfato Edvardo  
 ‘unum Messuagium, quadraginta acras terræ  
 ‘arabilis, et quadringentas acras pasturæ cum  
 ‘pertinentiis præfato Edvardo et Assignatis  
 ‘suis, a vicesimo die ejusdem Mensis Septem-  
 ‘bris anno decimo septimo supradicto usque ad  
 ‘plenum finem et terminum quinque annorum,  
 ‘&c. virtute cujus dimissionis idem Edvardus  
 ‘in tenementum prædictum cum pertinentiis  
 ‘intravit, et fuit inde possessionatus, quousque  
 ‘prædictus Theophilus postea, scilicet eodem  
 ‘tricesimo die Septembris anno supradicto vi et  
 ‘armis, &c. in tenementum prædictum cum  
 ‘pertinentiis, in et super possessionem ipsius  
 ‘Edvardi inde intravit, et ipsum Edvardum a  
 ‘firmâ suâ prædictâ, termino suo prædicto inde  
 ‘nondum finito, ejecit, expulit et amovit, ip-  
 ‘sumque Edvardum a possessione suâ prædictâ  
 ‘sic ejectum inde extratenuit et adhuc extratenet,  
 ‘et alia enormia ei intulit contra pacem dicti D.  
 ‘Regis nunc, ad damnum ipsius Edvardi viginti  
 ‘librarum; et inde producit sectam &c.

‘Et prædictus Theophilus Simpson, per Jo-  
 ‘hannem Cusse, Attornatum suum, venit et  
 ‘defendit vim &c. et super hoc venit Mat-  
 ‘thæus, Episcopus Eliensis, per Alexandrum  
 ‘Brome, Attornatum suum, &c. et dicit quod  
 ‘tenementum prædictum cum pertinentiis est  
 ‘infra Insulam Eliensem in Comitatu Cantabri-  
 ‘giæ, et infra jurisdictionem libertatis Episcopi  
 ‘Eliensis, et petit inde libertates et privilegia  
 ‘sua, scilicet habend. cognitionem placiti  
 ‘prædicti in Curia dicti Episcopi coram Justi-  
 ‘ciario suo tenend. Idemque Episcopus ul-  
 ‘terius dicit, quòd hujusmodi libertates, &c.  
 ‘scilicet in Curia D. Edvardi tertii, &c. scilicet  
 ‘termino Sancti Hillarii anno regni sui vicesimo  
 ‘primo Allocatio fuit tunc Episcopo Eliensi, &c.  
 ‘in quodam placito Transgressionis inter Katha-  
 ‘rinam Buck de Littleport querentem, et Wil-  
 ‘helmum Tiveto et alios de Littleport, defen-  
 ‘dentes, prout per recordum prædicti placiti,  
 ‘&c. plenius apparet: Idemque Episcopus Eli-  
 ‘ensis dicit quod hujusmodi libertates, &c. Sci-  
 ‘licet in dictâ Curia dicti D. Regis Edvardi  
 ‘coram ipso Rege termino Sancti Michaelis an-  
 ‘no regni sui vicesimo allocatio fuit tunc Epif-  
 ‘copo



‘copo Eliensi, &c. in quodam placito &c. inter Katharinam Buck querentem, et Henricum de London et alios, defendentes, prout per Recordum placiti prædicti, &c. plenius apparet, et petit idem Episcopus inde libertatem suam habend. cognitionem Placiti prædicti in curiâ dicti Episcopi coram Justiciario suo apud Wisbech tenend. Super quo auditis et intellectis præmissis, et inspectis allocationibus prædictis, quæsitum est a partibus, si quid dicere sciant, aut velint, quare prædictus Episcopus Eliensis libertatem suam in placito isto habere non debeat: Qui dicunt, quod non: idèdque habeat Episcopus prædictus libertatem suam, in placito isto: Et super hoc prædictus Attornatus ejusdem Episcopi præfixit diem partibus prædictis, coram Justiciario ejusdem Episcopi apud Wisbech, &c. Et dictum est eidem Attornato, quòd partibus prædictis ibidèd plena et celeris Justitia exhibeatur, alioquin redeant, &c.’

§ || §

*Laudum five Arbitrium inter Johannem Episcopum Eliensem, et Willielmum Priorem Elien. fact. A. D. 1417. de Juribus eorum et Successorum utriusque Partis.*—è MS Cotton C. 11. fol. 329.—et alio MS 8<sup>vo</sup>. in Officio Registr. apud Cantab.\*

UNIVERSIS Christi fidelibus ad quos presens Scriptura tripartita pervenerit, *Henricus Ware* Custos Privati Sigilli, *Willielmus Hankford* Capitalis Justiciarius Domini Regis, et *Rogerus Hortoun* unus Justiciarius Domini Regis ad ad Placita coram ipso Domino Rege tenend. Salutem in Omnium Salvatore.

Ipse Autor pacis Mediator Dei & Hominum a summis ad yma descendens ut pacem que perit inter Deum & Hominem reformaret, et eo firmitus stabiliret, eandem nascendo hominibus nunciavit, inter homines conversando verbis docuit et exemplo, ac finaliter quasi per viam Testamenti perpetuo duraturi moriendo reliquit, ad fraternum amorem & caritatis vinculum sui Nominis Cultores hiis et aliis mediis exhortando. Ad que sui interioris hominis oculos convertens Christianissimus Princeps Dominus noster Rex *Anglie & Francie Henricus V.*, volensque Pacem in Eccles. Cath. *Elien.* que sui Patronatus existit, inter Episcopum ex parte una, ac Priorem &

Monachos ex alia, diu turbatam, debitis mediis reformare; ac litibus, jurgiis, mentium distractionibus, bonorum spiritualium & temporalium dissipacionibus, et aliis infinitis discordiarum incommodis finem imponi perpetuo duraturum; ambas Partes supradictas ad suam metuendissimam presenciam convocans, easdem ad compromittend. de & super quibusdam Controversiis, Litibus, Discordiis, Accionibus, Demandis, et Querelis, inter easdem Partes habitis & exortis, in Nos *Henricum, Willielmum* et *Rogerus* supradictos, mediis sibi placabilibus inducere dignabatur: prefate quoque Partes, votis Regiis annuentes, in Nos tres unanimiter compromiserunt, ac Decreto, Laudo, Arbitrio, Judicio five amicali Compositioni, & finali Determinationi nostris, in alto & basso se spontaneè submiserunt; et eisdem stare & obedire in omnibus promiserunt.

Nos vero Arbitri, Compromissarii five amicales Compositores antedicti, ob reverenciam Dei & Ecclesie sue, ac specialiter ad mandatum dicti Metuendissimi Domini Nostri Regis, onus hujus Compromissi in Nos assumentes; auditisque hinc & inde propositis, cum suis allegacionibus non paucis; inspectis insuper & discussis Juribus & Munimentis Parcium predictarum; factis quoque inquisitionibus diversis; nec non partibus predictis ad viam concordie, excogitatis mediis per Nos, inductis; partim de earundem Parcium expresse consensu, partim ex auctoritate Nobis in hac parte attributa, nostra communi deliberacione, ad Laudum, Arbitrium, Judicium, amicabilem Compositionem five Sentenciam diffinitivam procedimus in hunc modum;

In Dei Nomine, Amen. Nos *Henricus, Willielmus*, et *Rogerus* compromissarii antedicti, auditis per Nos et plenius intellectis meritis omnium et singulorum supra & infra scriptorum, solum Deum habentes pre oculis, et de Jurisperitorum consilio, per hanc nostram diffinitivam Sentenciam, Laudamus, Arbitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Diffinimus, & finaliter Terminamus, Quòd Episcopus Eliensis modernus, pro tempore suo, ac sui Successores Episcopi Elienses, suis successivis temporibus, imperpetuum habeat et habebunt omnimodam Jurisdictionem Spiritualem, soli et in solidum, per totam Civitatem et Dioecesim *Elien.* absque reclamacione seu contradictione Prioris & Conventus, five Sacriste Ecclesie *Elien.* predict.; exceptis hiis que infra scribuntur, in quibus Sacrista habeat spiritua-lem jurisdictionem, modo & forma infra scriptis.

Habebit

\* This remarkable Arbitration (mentioned and referred to in p. 167. Note 7.) having a near relation to the Subject of the foregoing Historical Account of the Royal Franchise of Ely, written by the Rev. Mr. Warren; I could not well omit giving it a place here; especially as it serves to illustrate and confirm the Account above given by my learned and worthy Friend of that Royal Franchise; and sets the Temporal Jurisdiction of the Bishop of Ely in a very clear and conspicuous light.—It's usefulness at this day, and the Authority it bears, will appear on the perusal.—It was made by Persons of the most respectable Characters at that time, The Keeper of the King's Privy Seal, The Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and The Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, Arbitrators nominated and appointed by King Henry V., to settle a long Controversy between John Fordham Bishop of Ely, and William Powcher Prior of the Church of Ely, concerning their several Claims of Temporal, as well as Spiritual Jurisdiction, and other matters controverted between them.



Sacristæ  
jurisdictio  
in Hospi-  
tali Sti. Jo-  
hannis et  
Capellanis  
de le  
Grene in  
Ely.

Habebit namque Sacrista Eliensis, qui pro tempore fuerit, imperpetuum, jurisdictionem in *Hospitali Sti. Johannis Baptiste* infra Civitatem *Elyensem* situato, ac in Capellanis *Cantarie super le Grene* in eadem, tanquam Vicarius Episcopi, et prout in fundacionibus et ordinacionibus eorumdem expressè continetur, et non aliter, aut alio modo; sed considerato quòd dicti Capellani *Cantarie super le Grene* celebrant infra Ecclesiam Cath. *Elyen.* ac, ut dicitur, in certis Divinis obsequiis fiendis in eadem, solebant interesse, cultumque augmentare divinum; si Capellani, aut eorum aliquis, illa que sibi ratione alicujus Statuti, Compositionis, Consuetudinis, aut Fundacionis incumbunt in hac parte, non perficiat aut perficiant; Sacrista *Elyen.* qui pro tempore fuerit, eosdem cohercebit per censuras Ecclesiasticas, aut alias injunctiones, & jurisdictionem Spiritualem quamcumque, quociens et quum sibi videbitur expedire. Habebit quoque idem Sacrista, qui pro tempore fuerit, imperpetuum, omnem et omnimodam jurisdictionem Spiritualem (causis Heresium dumtaxat exceptis,) in omnibus & singulis Capellanis et in Clericis Paroch. ----- in duabus Ecclesiis Paroch. infra Civitatem *Elyen.* dictis Religiosis viris appropriatis, et quarum fructus ad officium Sacristarie pertinent, consuetè deservientibus, ac obedienciam canonicam recipiet ab eisdem. Et quia jurisdictio aliorum Clericorum & Laicorum infra easdem Parochias, extra loca dictis Religiosis inferiùs attributa degencium, ad Episcopum pertinet; prefati Capellani & Clerici in prefatis duabus Ecclesiis servientes, Episcopo *Elyen.* qui pro tempore fuerit, prestabunt eciam juramentum obediencie, quo ad sua licita et canonica mandata. Ad hec idem Sacrista habebit omnem & omnimodam jurisdictionem Spiritualem & Ecclesiasticam, (causis Heresium dumtaxat exceptis,) in omnibus & singulis personis infra scriptis, videlicet, Clericorum & Laicorum, Servienciumque Officiariorum, ac artificiariorum, & ministrorum secularium quorumcumque dicti Monasterii, et aliorum secularium quorumcumque infra septa dicti Monasterii, aut extra in grangiis sive maneriis ipsius Monasterii juxta *Ely*, videlicet, *Tirbutsey, Brame, Stonteney, Thorney, Northney, Quaveney, & Scheppey*, serviencium aut moram trahencium, eciam infra Civitatem *Elyen.* et extra dictum Monasterium de nocte cubantium.

De celebra-  
tione  
Synodi in  
Prioratu  
de Bern-  
well.

Pretereà de consensu et assensu dicti Reverendi Patris *Elyensis* Episcopi, eo non obstante, quòd temporibus retroactis Supprior *Elyensis* venire solebat singulis annis ad Synodum Episcopi *Elyensis* in Prioratu de *Berneville* celebrand. cum duobus aliis Monachis Monasterii *Elyensis*, et apparatibus diversis, ac in eadem Synodo Missam celebrare solemnem: ex nunc tamen idem Episcopus aut Successores sui, sive Ministri eorumdem, hujusmodi adventum Supprioris aut Monachorum, sive dicte Misse celebrationem, ab

eisdem minime vendicabit aut vendicabunt; sed erunt iidem Prior & Conventus, ac Supprior, & Monachi, & eorum Successores, de premissis onere omnino quieti imperpetuum; eritque in electione dictorum Prioris & Conventus in futurum, mittere ad Synodum supradictam unum de Monachis *Elyen.* aut alium Procuratorem legitimum, ad interessendum in eadem Synodo, tractandumque & consensendum hiis que ibidem legitime peragentur.

Insuper, habebit Sacrista *Elyen.* qui pro tempore fuerit, imperpetuum, omnem et omnimodam jurisdictionem, Spiritualem & Ecclesiasticam antedictam, (causis Heresium dumtaxat exceptis,) prout superius continetur, solus & in solidum, futuris semper temporibus, absque reclamacione Episcopi *Elyensis*, qui pro tempore fuerit, pacificè et quietè; Salvis tamen Visitationum temporibus, ac Causis & Negociis ad eundem Episcopum per viam Appellacionis, sive *Querele*, legitime devolutis; in quibus Visitationum temporibus, ac Appellacionibus, & *Querelis*, Episcopus, qui pro tempore fuerit, cognicionem, discussionem, ac solidam jurisdictionem habebit, & debitam correccionem, prout jura volunt.

Verumtamen si idem Sacrista, qui pro tempore fuerit, in faciendo justiciam sive debitam correccionem, quoad personas sue jurisdictionis superius ascriptas, negligens fuerit, ac per Episcopum *Elyensem*, qui pro tempore fuerit, aut ipsius auctoritate, ad faciend. justiciam, sive debitam correccionem, circa aliquem eorumdem, in specie monitus sive requisitus fuerit, ac ipsam justiciam sive correccionem, cessante justo impedimento, coram eodem Episcopo, si opus fuerit, probando, per 15 dies, a tempore dicte monicionis sive requisicionis continue numerandos, facere distulerit; ex tunc ipsa jurisdictio, quoad illam personam, circa quam justicia sive debita correccio est neglecta, ad eundem Episcopum, qui pro tempore fuerit, pro illa vice censeatur omnino devoluta; idemque Episcopus justiciam faciat & corrigat in hac parte, reclamacione sive contradiccione Prioris, aut Conventus, sive Sacriste predictorum, in aliquo non obstante.

Cum etiam predictus Prior clamaverit habere sibi, & Successoribus suis, Omnia Fines, Americamenta, & Exitus forisfactos, de omnibus tenentibus de feodo suo infra *Insulam de Ely* existentibus, per quamcumque causam emergentur, in quibuscumque Curiis et Placeis regiis adjudicantur; clamaverit eciam idem Prior, habere sibi, & Successoribus suis predictis, infra *Insulam* predictam, Omnia Bona & Catalla quorumcumque hominum & tenencium suorum, felonum, fugitivorum, & dampnatorum, in Curiis Domini Regis, ac annum, diem et vastum de eorum terris & tenementis, & omnes alias forisfacturas que Domino Regi infra feoda et terras sua possent quovismodo pertinere; — clamaverit eciam idem Prior, habere sibi, & Successoribus suis

Exceptio  
pro Epif-  
copo, in  
Visitatio-  
nibus, Ap-  
pellat. et  
Querelis.

De Negli-  
gentia Sa-  
cristæ per  
15 dies.

Clameum  
Prioris de  
Americam-  
entis,  
&c.

—De Bo-  
nis & Ca-  
tallis Fe-  
lonum, &c.

—De Re-  
tornistrie  
viam, &c.

pre-



Responsio  
Episcopi.

Judicium  
de Cogni-  
tione Pla-  
citorum,  
Finibus,  
Amerci-  
mentis, &c.

predictis, Retorna omnium Brevium, & Summon-  
cionum de Scaccario, et eorumdem Brevium  
& Summon. executiones, in omnibus terris et  
feodis suis, infra eandem *Insulam*; & eciam ha-  
bere & tenere omnia Placita de Averiis & Catal-  
lis captis & injustè detentis, & omnia alia Placi-  
ta, que Vicecomes, virtute Brevium Domini Re-  
gis, vel auctoritate propria, & sui officii potesta-  
te, posset cognoscere vel tenere: — Predictusque  
Episcopus, prefato Priori respondendo, clama-  
verit habere sibi, & Successoribus suis infra & per  
totam *Insulam* predictam, Cogniciones omnimo-  
dorum Placitorum, & omnes Fines, Amercia-  
menta, et Exitus forisfactos, in quibuscumque Do-  
mini Regis Curiis & Placeis, de quibuscumque  
personis, ex causa quacumque, infra *Insulam*  
predictam emergentia; clamaverit eciam idem  
Episcopus, habere sibi, & Successoribus suis,  
Omnia Bona & Catalla fugitivorum, et felonum,  
dampnatorum, in quibuscumque Curiis Domini  
Regis, ac annum, diem & vatum de eorum ter-  
ris & tenementis, & omnes alias forisfacturas  
que accidere possint infra *Insulam* predictam; —  
clamaverit eciam idem Episcopus, habere sibi,  
& Successoribus suis predictis, Retorna omnium  
Brevium Regiorum, & Summon. de Scaccario,  
& Preceptorum Justiciar. et executiones eorum-  
dem, de quibuscumque causis emergen. infra  
*Insulam* supradictam; et in evidenciam clameo-  
rum ipsius Episcopi predictorum, ostenderit idem  
Episcopus diversas Allocaciones inde in Curiis  
Regiis sibi, & Predecessoribus suis, habitas &  
concessas, eadem clamea ad intencionem ipsius  
Episcopi approbantes. Et in hoc quòd predictus  
Prior clamat habere & tenere omnia Placita de  
Averiis captis et injustè detentis, et alia Placita  
Vicecomitalia supradicta; Dixerit idem Episco-  
pus, Placita illa sibi, et suis Successoribus, per-  
tinere per predictas evidencias per ipsum Episco-  
pum ostensas, plenius continentes, quòd Ipse et  
Predecessores sui, in Curiis Regiis habuerunt cog-  
niciones omnimodorum Placitorum infra *Insu-  
lam* antedictam, et eciam Retorna, et Executio-  
nes Brevium quorumcumque infra *Insulam* illam  
emergencium; quibus terminis Brevia, et Placi-  
ta Vicecomitalia includuntur: — Nos Arbitri  
predicti, auditis, intellectis, et attentis eviden-  
ciis & allegacionibus ex utraque parte predicto-  
rum Episcopi & Prioris propositis & ostensis, Ar-  
bitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Diffinimus,  
& finaliter Terminamus, quòd predictus Episco-  
pus, & Successores sui, pro perpetuò habebunt  
Cogniciones omnimodorum Placitorum in Cu-  
riis Domini Regis, & Heredum suorum, infra  
*Insulam* predictam emergencium, et omnia Fi-  
nes, Amerciamenta & Exitus forisfactos, in qui-  
buslibet Curiis & Placeis Domini Regis, & He-  
redum suorum, ex causa quacumque emergen-  
cia infra *Insulam* antedictam; absque predicti  
Prioris, aut Successorum suorum, impedimento  
eis aliquo inferend.; et similiter quòd pre-

fatus Episcopus, & Successores sui, habebunt  
omnia Bona & Catalla fugitivorum, felonum, &  
dampnatorum, et alias Forisfacturas quascum-  
que, in Curiis Domini Regis, & Heredum suo-  
rum, adjudicat. sive adjudicand. contingerent in-  
fra *Insulam* supradictam, absque impedimento  
predicti Prioris, & Successorum suorum, imper-  
petuò: — Ac eciam quòd predictus Episcopus,  
et Successores sui imperpetuum, habebunt Re-  
torna omnium Brevium Regiorum, & Summon.  
de Scaccario, et precepta Justiciariorum, & ex-  
ecutiones eorumdem infra eandem *Insulam*, ex  
quacumque causa emergen., absque hoc quòd  
predictus Prior, & Ministri, aut Successores sui,  
se de eisdem aliquo intromittent: — Et quoad  
Placita de Averiis, & Catallis captis et injustè  
detentis, ac alia Placita Vicecomitalia supradicta,  
ex quo predictus Prior non dedixerit predictam  
Libertatem et Jurisdictionem prefati Episcopi,  
de habendo Cogniciones omnimodorum Placito-  
rum infra *Insulam* antedictam; et similiter evi-  
dencie ipsius Episcopi probaverint, quòd idem  
Episcopus et Predecessores sui Justiciarios suos  
ad Placita illa infra *Insulam* predictam tenend. a  
longo tempore successive habuerunt constitutos;  
et predictus Prior nullam Allocationem de hu-  
jusmodi Libertate sibi nec Predecessoribus suis  
factam allegaverit nec ostenderit; et similiter in  
hoc quòd Retorna Brevium et Executiones om-  
nimodorum Brevium, in quibus tam Brevia de  
Replegiare et Vicecomitalia, quàm alia Brevia in-  
telliguntur, prefato Episcopo infra *Insulam* pre-  
dictam pertinuerunt faciend.: — Nos Arbitri pre-  
dicti, Arbitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Dif-  
finimus, et finaliter Terminamus, quòd predic-  
tus Episcopus, & Successores sui, habebunt et  
tenebunt hujusmodi Placita de Averiis & Catal-  
lis captis et injustè detentis, et alia Placita Vice-  
comitalia predicta infra *Insulam* antedictam, abs-  
que predicti Prioris, et Successorum suorum,  
perturbatione aliqua contrarie faciend.; Placitis  
infra feoda et terras predicti Prioris, et Successo-  
rum suorum, in *Insula* predicta, in Curiis Baron,  
Visibus franci plegii, sive Letis suis, eisdem Cu-  
riis et Visibus sive Letis pertinentibus, prefato  
Priori et suis Successoribus semper salvis.

Item cum predictus Prior clamaverit habere  
sibi et Successoribus suis omnia Fines, Amerci-  
amenta, et exitus forisfactos, Bona & Catalla  
Fugitivorum, Felonum, et Dampnatorum, et  
alias Forisfacturas quascumque de omnibus ho-  
minibus et tenentibus suis in terris et feodis suis  
infra *Insulam* predictam, quandocumque homi-  
nes et tenentes illi amerciati fuerint, vel fines fe-  
cerint, vel eorum bona et catalla fuerint forisfac-  
ta, in omnibus et singulis Curiis predicti Episco-  
pi, et Successorum suorum; quamvis homines  
vel tenentes illi de prefato Episcopo, aut Successo-  
ribus suis, alibi tenuerint infra eandem *Insu-  
lam*; — clamaverit eciam predictus Prior habere  
sibi et Successoribus suis omnia Bona et Catalla  
vocata

— De Bo-  
nis et Ca-  
tallis Felo-  
num, Fu-  
gitivo-  
rum, &c.

De Retor-  
nis Brevi-  
um Regi-  
orum, &c.

Judicium  
de tenendo  
Placita de  
Averiis  
captis et  
detentis,  
et alia Pla-  
cita Vice-  
com. infra  
*Insulam*.

Exceptio  
pro Priore.

Clameum  
Prioris de  
Finibus,  
Amerci-  
mentis,  
Bonis &  
Catallis,  
&c. de Te-  
nentibus  
suis.



De Wayfs  
& Strayes.Judicium  
de Finibus,  
Amercia-  
ment.  
Catallis  
Felonum,  
et aliis Fo-  
risfacturis  
in maneri-  
is suis.De foris-  
facturis  
extraneo-  
rum in te-  
rad. Prioris.

vocata *Wayfs*, et animalia vocata *Strayes* in feodis, terris, et tenementis suis infra *Insulam* predictam; et habere liberationem Extractarum hujusmodi finium factorum, exituum, et amerciamenorum, et bonorum et catallorum forisfactorum; ac Ballivum suum, cum Virga in manu sua, sedentem juxta Ballivum predicti Episcopi, et Successorum suorum, omni die cujuslibet Visus franci plegii, et Halimote apud *Ely* tenend.;—predictusque Episcopus materias illas contradixerit;—et predictus Prior nihilominus diversas Extractas de consimilibus finibus, exitibus, amerciamenentis, bonis et catallis felonum, ab hujusmodi Curiis predicti Episcopi et aliquorum Predecessorum suorum, ipsi Priori, et aliquibus Predecessorum suorum, ostenderit liberatas, clameum ipsius Prioris de Extractis illis in forma predicta liberand. verisimiliter affirmantes;—Nos Arbitri predicti, auditis inde et intellectis evidenciis nobis exhibitis et ostensis, et allegationibus ex utraque parte propositis, Arbitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Distinimus, et finaliter Terminamus, quod secundum allegationes et evidencias ex parte predicti Prioris propositas et ostensas, eidem Priori et Successoribus suis pertinebit ad habendum, et quod ipsi de cetero habebunt, omnia Fines, Amerciamenta, et Exitus forisfactos, Bona et Catalla felonum, fugitivorum, et dampnatorum, et alias Forisfacturas quascumque accidentes sive existentes in omnibus terris, feodis, et tenementis suis, que assignata fuerunt Monachis *Elien.* per antiquas separationem et assignacionem, per quendam nuper Episcopum *Elyensem*, in *Ely*, *Sutton*, *Wicham*, *Winteworth*, *Wichford*, *Sturton*, *Tirbutsey*, *Witlesey*, et alibi infra *Insulam* predictam, (de quibus ea que sunt in *Ely*, in quibusdam Indenturis presentibus annexis plenius declaratur,) de omnibus hominibus et tenentibus suis cubantibus et levantibus in eisdem terris, feodis, et tenementis, in omnibus et singulis Curiis predicti Episcopi, et Successorum suorum, infra *Insulam* illam imperpetuum; tam de Placitis, unde Cogniciones in Curiis Domini Regis predicto Episcopo conceduntur, aut sibi, vel Successoribus suis, in Curiis Regiis impofterum concedentur; quam de aliis Placitis, Causis, et Accionibus quibuscumque, per Extractas per ministros earumdem Curiarum faciend., et Ballivo predicti Prioris aut Successorum suorum pro tempore existen. liberand.; Salvis et reservatis predicto Episcopo, et Successoribus suis, omnimodis finibus, et gersumis factis, seu faciendis, pro terris et tenementis in quibuscumque Curiis dicti Episcopi, et Successorum suorum, infra *Insulam* predictam, qui ad usum Episcopi pro tempore existen. per Ballivum suum levand. integre remanebunt.—Et si aliqui extranei, non tenentes dicti Episcopi, aut Successorum suorum, forisfecerint in dictis terris, tenementis, et feodis, predictis Monachis, ut premittitur, assignatis, per quod Bona et Ca-

talla sua perdere debeant; in hoc casu hujusmodi Bona et Catalla in eisdem terris, tenementis, et feodis, tempore forisfacture predictæ existencia, prefato Priori et Successoribus suis imperpetuum remanebunt.—Et si contigerit aliquod Placitum tangens aliquem hominem sive tenentem predicti Prioris, aut Successorum suorum, in dictis feodis, terris, et tenementis, que fuerunt de predictis antiquis separacione et assignacione, ut predictum est, cubantem & levantem, in Cur. Domini Regis pendere, cujus causa emerferit infra *Insulam* supradictam, et predictus Episcopus et ejus Attornati, aut aliquis Successorum suorum et Attornatus suus, postquam eorum aliquis de Placito illo racionabiliter premunitus fuerit, vel noticiam inde habuerit, negligentes fuerint vel remissi, ad petend. cognicionem Placiti illius; quod tunc post negligenciam sive remissionem illam, predictus Prior et Successores sui omnia Exitus, Amerciamenta, et Fines inde perveniencia et contingencia habebunt, per extractas Ballivo suo liberand. per Ballivum predicti Episcopi, vel Successorum suorum pro tempore existen. postquam idem Ballivus Episcopi allocacionem inde habuerit in Scaccario, vel alia Curia Domini Regis.—Provisio semper, quod predictus Prior et Successores sui, vel Ballivus Prioris pro tempore existens, super qualibet liberatione talium extractorum in quibus Fines, Amerciamenta, sive Exitus forisfacti in Placito unde Episcopus pro tempore existens optinuerit cognicionem in Curia Domini Regis content. fuerint, solvent vel solvet Ballivo Episcopi ad tunc existenti, pro qualibet cognicione talis Placiti per Episcopum illum sic obtenta, 6s. 8d. ad usum ejusdem Episcopi imperpetuum, pro custagiis suis in Curia Domini Regis factis, secundum illam consuetudinem, quod pro qualibet tali cognicione Placiti ibidem habita 6s. 8d. pro feodis solvi debent.—Et si aliquis Prior pro tempore existens, feoda illa Ballivo Episcopi tunc existenti solvere recusaverit, Fines, Amerciamenta, et Exitus forisfacti in hujusmodi Placitis, unde cogniciones optente fuerint, ad usum Episcopi tunc existents, per Ballivum suum levanda remanebunt.—Et eciam si quis hominum vel tenencium predicti nunc Prioris vel Successorum suorum, insultum vel rescussum fecerit alicui Ballivo vel Ministro predicti Episcopi, vel Successorum suorum, in executione Legis facienda, quominus Ballivus vel Minister ille execuciones Brevium Domini Regis, Preceptorum Justiciar. seu alterius Officiarii predicti Episcopi, et Successorum suorum, facere poterit, per quod misericordiam inciderit, exitus amiserit, vel finem fecerit in aliqua Curia predicti Episcopi, vel Successorum suorum;—ex tunc Amerciamenta, Exitus, et Fines inde emergen. pertinebunt predicto Episcopo, et Successoribus suis, imperpetuum.—Et quoad hoc quod predictus nunc Prior clamat, quod Ballivus suus federet juxta Ballivum Episcopi,

Contra  
negligen-  
tiam At-  
tornati E-  
piscopi.De 6s. 8d.  
solvend.  
Ballivo E-  
piscopi.



Judicium  
de sessione  
Ballivi Pri-  
oris in Le-  
tis Episco-  
pi.

De Amerc.  
in Letis  
Prioris li-  
berand.  
Ballivo E-  
piscopi.

De Wayfs  
et Strays  
in feodo  
Prioris.

Clameum,  
et Judi-  
cium pro  
Warren-  
na.

cópi, cum Virga in manu sua, in forma predicta; — Nos Arbitri predicti Arbitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Diffinimus, et finaliter Terminamus, quòd Ballivus predicti Prioris, et Successorum suorum, sic sedere poterit, ad informandum Senescallum Episcopi de tenentibus Prioris, et ad recipiendum extractas eorundem tenencium; set non ad judicandum, nec se de judiciis, sive gubernacione, vel regula Curie, aliquialiter intromittendum; Et similiter idem Ballivus esse debet ad afforacionem amerciamentorum, in que tenentes Prioris inciderint, ad informandum afforatores de qualitate et quantitate transgressionum, et causarum, pro quibus misericordias inciderint; Salvo semper, quòd idem Ballivus primo jurabitur ad Secreta Curie concelanda.—Et similiter Arbitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Diffinimus, et finaliter Terminamus, quòd predictus nunc Episcopus, et Successores sui imperpetuum, habebunt omnia Fines, Amerciamenta, et Exitus forisfactos, de omnibus tenentibus et hominibus suis contingen. in Curiis, et Visibus franci plegii, predicti Prioris, et Successorum suorum, imperpetuum;—ita quòd homines et tenentes illi non fuerint cubantes et levantes in predictis terris, feodis, et tenementis predicti Prioris et Successorum suorum, que fuerunt de predictis antiquis separacione et assignacione, ut predictum est, per extractas inde Ballivo Episcopi, liberand. in predicta forma qua Ballivus Prioris extractas suas de Curiis Episcopi recipiet liberatas;—Salvis et reservatis prefato Priori et Successoribus suis omnimodis finibus et gersumis factis, seu faciendis, pro terris et tenementis, in quibuscumque Curiis dicti Prioris, et Successorum suorum, infra *Insulam* predictam, qui ad usum Prioris pro tempore exist. per Ballivum suum levand. integre remanebunt.—Et ulterius Arbitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Diffinimus, et finaliter Terminamus, quòd predictus Prior, et Successores sui, habebunt omnia Bona et Catalla vocata *Wayfs*, et animalia vocata *Strays*, acciden. in terris, feodis, et tenementis suis de antiquis separacione et assignacione predictis existen. ut predictum est; et omnia Bona et Catalla vocata *Wayfs*, et animalia vocata *Strays*, a libi infra *Insulam* predictam accidentia predicto Episcopo, et suis Successoribus imperpetuum, pertinebunt, absque predicti Prioris, aut Successorum suorum, contradictione, vel clam. apponend.

Item cum predictus Prior clamaverit habere sibi, et Successoribus suis, liberam Warrennam, in omnibus Maneriis, terris, et tenementis suis predictis, nuper Monachis *Elyensibus* per predictas antiquas separacionem et assignacionem assignatis, et ostenderit nobis Arbitris antedictis, Cartam Domini *Henrici* nuper Regis *Anglie* fil. Reg. *Johannis*, cuidam nuper Priori et Conventui suo de *Ely*, de Libertate illa in omnibus terris et tenementis suis, factam;—Nos Arbitri antedicti, visis evidenciis ex utraque parte, eisque

auditis, et intellectis; Arbitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Diffinimus, et finaliter Terminamus, quòd idem Prior, et Successores sui, liberâ Warrennâ illâ, absque impetitione predicti Episcopi, vel Successorum suorum, gaudebunt pacificè et quietè;—Et similiter predictus Episcopus, et Successores sui, habebunt liberam Warrennam suam, alibi per totam *Insulam* supradictam.

Item cum predictus Prior questus fuerit, homines et tenentes suos multipliciter opprimi et gravari in hoc, quòd predictus Episcopus constituit Justiciarios suos ad Pacem Domini Regis in predicta *Insula* conservandam;—ad quod predictus Episcopus dixerit, quòd ipse, et omnes Predecessores sui Episcopi *Elyenses*, a tempore Mutacionis Abbacie de *Ely* in Episcopatum, et omnes Abbates Abbacie predictæ ante mutacionem illam, virtute Cartarum Dominorum Regum *Anglie*, *Edgari*, *Sti Edwardi* et *Henrici* I post Conquestum, habuerunt et tenuerunt predictam *Insulam* liberam et quietam ab omni exactione Regali; et inter alias Libertates, et Franchefias, habuerunt, et usi fuerunt inconcussè Regali Jurisdictione, ad assignand. Justiciarios suos ad Inquirend. de quibuscumque Causis sive Querelis, infra predictam *Insulam* emergentibus; nec non ad Inquirend. Audiend. et Terminand. quascumque Causas, Felonias, Transgressiones, et alia Malefacta infra *Insulam* predictam facta et perpetrata;—Ita quòd nullus Justiciarius, vel Minister Domini Regis, ad premissa infra *Insulam* predictam faciend. venit, vel aliquialiter intromisit;—Et quociens, et quum Dominus Rex Justiciarios suos assignaverit, ad Inquirend. Audiend. et Terminand. aliqua Felonias, Transgressiones, aut Malefacta in Comit. *Cant.* perpetrata, sive ad Pacem in eodem Comitatu Conservand., et alia quecumque in Commissione inde eis directa Faciend., Exercend., seu Exequend., iidem Justiciarii post predictas Libertates, Franchefias, et Jurisdictionem Regalem nuper Abbatibus de *Ely* per predictos nuper Reges concessas eisdem Abbatibus, ante mutacionem Abbacie predictæ in Episcopatum, et ipsi nunc Episcopo, et Predecessoribus suis; post mutacionem illam; in Sessionibus suis semper deliberaverunt Attornat. Abbatibus, vel Episcopi pro tempore existen. Transcriptum Commissionis Domini Regis eisdem Justiciariis directe, ut idem Abbas, vel Episcopus, Justiciarios suos infra *Insulam* predictam constituere, et assignare posset, ad omnia in eodem Transcripto contenta, infra et per totam *Insulam* predictam faciend. exercend. implend. et exequend.—Et pro pleniori informacione inde Nobis predictis Arbitris exhibenda, monstraverit Nobis idem nunc Episcopus quamplura Recorda, de hujusmodi Transcriptis Commissionum, tam ad Audiend. et Terminand., quàm ad Pacem Conservand. et alia in eisdem Transcriptis contenta Faciend., Exercend., Implend., et Exequend. Attornatis ip-

De Justiciariis constitutendis.

Clameum Episcopi per Cartas Regum tenere *Insulam* *Elyen.* liberam, &c.

Assignandi Justiciarios, libertatem clamat Episcopus.

Nullus Justiciarius Regis infra *Insulam* venit.

Regis Justiciarii in Comit. *Cant.* Sidentes, transcriptum Commissionis eorum Attornato Episcopi tradunt.



Judicium  
pro Justiciariis  
Episcopi in  
Infula.

sius Episcopi, et Predecessorum suorum, per Justiciarios in eisdem Commissionibus nominatos, liberatarum:—Super quo, visis evidenciis predictis, et auditis rationibus, ex parte predicti Prioris, in contrarium allegatis; videtur Nobis Arbitris antedictis, prefatum Episcopum, nec Predecessores suos, in constitutione hujusmodi Justiciariorum minimè deliquisse; per quod, Arbitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Diffinimus, et finaliter Terminamus, quòd predictus nunc Episcopus, et Successores sui, hujusmodi Justiciarios in *Infula* predicta de cetero constituent, et assignabunt, in predicta forma per Predecessores suos antiquitus usitata, sine predicti Prioris, et Successorum suorum, et eorum tenencium, impedimento.

Item cum predictus Prior clamaverit tenere omnes possessiones suas, que per antiquas separationem et assignacionem predictas, tunc Monachis de *Ely* assignate fuerunt, de Domino Rege immediate, et non de prefato Episcopo;—Nos Arbitri predicti, certis de causis nos moventibus, renuimus inde multum tractare, et finaliter Judicare;—Nobis tamen inde videtur expediens et conforme, quòd usus et modus inde post separationem et assignacionem predictas optent. inter predictum nunc Episcopum, et Priorem, et Successores, servarentur de cetero in futurum.

Clameum  
Prioris de  
Prisona.

Judicium  
de ea.

Item cum predictus Prior clamaverit habere Prisonam in *Infula* predicta, de omnibus hominibus, tenentibus, et servantibus suis, infra *Infulam* illam; et allegaverit, quòd ipse, et omnes Predecessores sui, hujusmodi Prisonam, a tempore quo non extat memoria, habuerunt;—predictusque nunc Episcopus, predictum Priorem, et Predecessores suos, Prisonam illam taliter habuisse contradixerit:—Nos Arbitri predicti, pro pace, concordia, et dilectione, inter predictos nunc Episcopum, et Priorem, et suos Successores, melius et solidius nutriend. Arbitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Diffinimus, et finaliter Terminamus, quòd siquos homines, tenentes, vel servientes familiares predicti nunc Prioris, vel Successorum suorum, in terris, feodis, et tenementis suis de antiquis separacione et assignacione predictis, cubantes et levantes, per Ballivum, vel alium Ministrum predicti Episcopi, vel Successorum suorum, per processum legis capi contigerit in futurum;---Ballivus, per literas Prioris pro tempore existentis, cum suo sigillo signand. deputandus, (pro quo idem Prior respondere voveret, et debebit,) veniet ad Ballivum, vel Ministrum Episcopi, qui homines et tenentes, vel servientes illos ceperit, et petet eos sibi deliberari in Prisona ejusdem Prioris custodiendos;---Et predictus Ballivus, vel Minister Episcopi, eos eidem Ballivo Prioris, in forma illa, custodiendos incontinentèr liberabit, absque feodo pro capcione, vel deliberacione eorum capiend. per Indenturam inde inter eos primitus faciendam;---qui quidem Ballivus Prioris, homines, tenentes, vel servientes hujusmodi, sic captos et liberatos,

bene et sufficienter custodiet, et eos reducet Ballivo vel Ministro Episcopi racionabiliter erga dies, versus eos per processum legis limitatos, sive limitandos;---et si evaserint, vel ad dies illos defuerint, Ballivus Prioris Custos Prisonæ sue, si sufficiens fuerit, et non fugerit, justificari volens; sin autem, Prior, pro tempore existens, Episcopo, qui pro tempore fuerit, et ejus Ministris, dampna que sustinuerint, emendabit, et eos indempnes in omnibus conservabit, et pro evasione similiter respondebit;---Provisò semper, quòd executio de illis, qui pro executione Statutorum Mercatorii et Stapule, debitis, vel dampnis recuperatis, sive aliis rebus adjudicatis, et recuperatis in Cur. Domini Regis, vel Episcopi *Elyensis*, pro tempore exist. capiendi sunt, Ballivis predicti nunc Episcopi, et Successorum suorum, et non Ministris Prioris, et Successorum suorum remanebit in omnibus faciend.

Clausula  
de eva-  
sione.

De execu-  
tione Sta-  
tutorum  
Mercato-  
rii et Sta-  
pule, &c.

Clameum  
Prioris de  
100s. an-  
nuatim.

Item cum predictus nunc Prior clamaverit habere sibi, et Successoribus suis, de predicto nunc Episcopo, et Successoribus suis, quendam annuum redditum 100s. et pro titulo redditus illius habend. protulerit quandam Cartam sub nomine *Galfridi* nuper Episcopi *Eliensis*; per quam supponitur, ipsum nuper Episcopum, ad honorem Dei, et perpetuam veneracionem Beate *Etheldrede*, concessisse et dedisse 100s. annuos de Scaccario suo, in assuetis quatuor anni terminis, a Sacrista *Eliensis* Ecclesie percipend. ad unum Cereum provid. ante Majus Altare illius Ecclesie, ita quòd continuè esset accensus;—asseruissetque predictus *Galfridus* nuper Episcopus, per Cartam predictam, ipsum collacionem illam fecisse de assensu Capituli *Eliensis* perpetuò valituram, et in illius rei fidem, Sigillum suum, una cum Sigillo Capitulari *Eliensis* Ecclesie Carte predictæ apposuisse;---Ad quòd predictus Episcopus, (protestando quòd non cognovit aliquid de clameo predicto nunc Prioris, de redditu predicto,) dixerit, quòd predictus *Galfridus* nuper Episcopus obiit ante Coronacionem Domini *Richardi* nuper Regis *Anglie* Primi post Conquestum;---Dixerit etiam idem nunc Episcopus, quòd per Cartam predictam minimè declaratur, quòd redditus predictus in aliquo loco certo percipi deberet, nisi in Scaccario ipsius *Galfridi* nuper Episcopi, quòd per suam mortem ab essencia desiit, et finivit; ac licet Carta predicta pro vita ipsius nuper Episcopi sufficiens crederetur, tamen ad Successores suos solucioni redditus predicti obligandum, (cum verba sua tantum in eadem inferantur, et sui solius factum fuerit,) non referret;---Allegaverit etiam nunc Episcopus, quòd nec predictus nunc Prior, nec aliquis Predecessorum suorum, fuit seiscitus de annuo redditu predicto infra tempus memorie;---Nos Arbitri predicti, auditis, et intellectis, tam Carta predicta quàm rationibus ex utraque parte hinc et inde propositis, Arbitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Diffinimus, et finaliter Terminamus, quòd titulus

Judicium  
de 100s.



Ius predicti nunc Prioris, ad habendum annuum redditum predictum per Cartam predictam factus, non est sufficiens ad predictum nunc Episcopum, et Successores suos, de eodem annuo redditu onerandum; eo quod Carta predicta mentionem non facit de aliqua Persona habili vel ydonea, que redditum illum perciperet, nisi tantum de Sacrista Ecclesie, qui ad hoc habilis esse non potest, eo quod Persona capax in lege non sit; nec in eadem Carta memoratur, quod redditus ille de prefato *Galfrido* nuper Episcopo et Successoribus suis capi deberet; per quod Successores ipsius Episcopi per Cartam illam onerandi non sunt; ac similiter in eadem Carta recitatur, quod Episcopus predictus Sigillum suum una cum Sigillo Capitulari *Eliensis* Ecclesie Carte predictae apposuit; — que verba ipsius nuper Episcopi, et non Capituli, ipsum nunc Episcopum nec onerant, neque ligant.

Clameum  
Prioris de  
Vastis et  
Mariscis,  
&c.

Judicium  
de eis.

Item cum predictus Prior clamaverit solum Vastorum et Mariscorum in *Insula* predicta, infra Maneria sua de *Suttoun, Wicheham, Wicheford, Wynteworth, Witlesey*, et *Stunteney*, que sunt infra eandem *Insulam*, esse suum, et Successorum suorum; — Nos Arbitri predicti, auditis, et intellectis allegacionibus predicti nunc Prioris, et responsionibus predicti nunc Episcopi proinde propositis, Arbitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Diffinimus, et finaliter Terminamus, quod solum Vastorum et Mariscorum predictorum, ut parcella predictorum Maneriorum de *Suttoun, Wicham, Wicheford, Winteworth, Wittlesey*, et *Stunteney* prefato nunc Priori, et Successoribus suis, pro jure suo inde plenius probato, imperpetuum pertinebit.

Item cum predictus Prior clamaverit, quod ipse, et Successores sui, cum predicto nunc Episcopo, et Successoribus suis, essent Domini Vastorum et Mariscorum de *Ely*, et ea insimul pro indiviso, et in communi cum predicto nunc Episcopo, et Successoribus suis, tenerent; — clamaverit etiam idem Prior, habere sibi et Successoribus suis omnes Forisfacturas in Vastis et Mariscis de *Ely* accidentes, vocat. *Forfaitures of the Fennes*, viz. omnes Turbas fossas, Roscum et Leschiam falcatos vel messos in predictis Vastis et Mariscis per homines forinsecos, quolibet tempore anni; vel per homines residentes infra Villam de *Ely* predictam, tempore seissonabili, Turbas, Roscum, et Leschiam illos in Vastis et Mariscis predictis, ultra terminum in Cur. de Visu Franci Plegii apud *Ely* tent. limitatum dimittentes; unde predictus nunc Prior, se, et Predecessores suos, a tempore quo non extat memoria, fuisse seissitos, allegaverit; — predictusque nunc Episcopus, (protestando ipsum non cognovisse aliqua per predictum Priorem proinde superius allegata,) dixerit, quod ipse, et Predecessores sui Episcopi *Elienses*, fuerunt successive seissiti ut soli tenentes de Manerio de *Ely* cum pertinentiis, unde Solum Vastorum et Mariscorum de *Ely* est parcella, absque hoc quod predictus nunc

Prior de *Ely*, seu aliquis Predecessorum suorum, aliquid habuerint in Manerio et Solo illis infra tempus memorie; — et ulterius idem nunc Episcopus dixerit, quod ipse, et omnes Predecessores sui Episcopi *Elienses*, a tempore quo non extat memoria, habuerunt omnes predictas Forisfacturas vocat. *The Forfaitures of the Fennes*; — absque hoc quod predictus nunc Prior, aut aliquis Predecessorum suorum, a toto tempore illo, aliquid habuerit in eisdem; — allegaverit etiam idem nunc Episcopus, quod inter terras et tenementa per predictas antiquas separacionem et assignacionem prefatis nuper Monachis de *Ely* assignat., nichil dictum fuit de predictis Vastis et Mariscis de *Ely*; et sic Vasta et Marisci illa, cum residuo possessionum Abbacie de *Ely*, tunc Episcopo *Elien.* et ejus Successoribus, remanserunt; per quod, eadem Vasta et Marisci, parcella Maneriorum, terrarum, et tenementorum eisdem tunc Episcopo remanencium, dici debent; — Nos Arbitri predicti, auditis, et intellectis allegacionibus inde ex utraque parte propositis, Arbitramur, Decernimus, Judicamus, Diffinimus, et finaliter Terminamus, quod Solum Vastorum et Mariscorum de *Ely* dicto Episcopo, et Successoribus suis, pro recto suo inde plenius declarato, imperpetuum pertinebit; — et quoad Forisfacturas vocatas *Forfaitures of the Fennes*, in Vastis et Mariscis de *Ely*, superius declaratas, predicti nunc Episcopus, et Prior, pro se et Successoribus suis, per mediacionem nostram, in forma sequenti pro perpetuo concordantur, videlicet; — Quod predictus nunc Episcopus et Successores sui habebunt omnes predictas Forisfacturas vocatas *Forfaitures of the Fennes*, de omnibus tenentibus suis in Vastis et Mariscis de *Ely* predictis, et omnimodas alias Forisfacturas de eorum Bonis et Catallis in eisdem Vastis et Mariscis de *Ely* accidentibus; — Et ulterius, quod omnes ille Forisfacture vocate *Forfaitures of the Fennes*, scilicet, Turbe fossate, Roscus et Leschia falcati et messi aliquo tempore anni, in dictis Vastis et Mariscis de *Ely* per aliquem forinsecum, viz. ullum non habentem commune Estoverium in eisdem Vastis et Mariscis, utrum infra vel extra predictam *Insulam* manserit, equaliter dividi debent inter predictos nunc Episcopum et Priorem, et Successores suos; ita quod predictus nunc Episcopus et Successores sui, unam medietatem, et predictus nunc Prior et Successores sui, alteram medietatem Forisfacturarum illarum, habebunt imperpetuum; — et quod predictus nunc Episcopus, et Successores sui, soli per se percipient et habebunt imperpetuum, omnia Fines, Amerciamenta, et Exitus forisfactos, ac Forisfacturas de Bonis et Catallis dictorum forinsecorum infra Vasta et Mariscos predicta, ex quacumque causa emergentia et accidentia; — Et predictus Prior et Successores sui, soli per se imperpetuum percipient et habebunt, omnes Forisfacturas vocatas *The Forfaitures of the Fennes*,

\* E

infra



infra Vasta et Mariscos de *Ely*, de omnibus tenentibus suis, cubantibus et levantibus in terris, feodis, et tenementis suis, que fuerunt de predictis antiquis separacione et assignacione, commune Estoverium in Vastis et Mariscis de *Ely* predictis habentibus, licet alibi tenuerint de Episcopis; ac omnia Fines, Amerciamenta, et Exitus forisfactos, ac quascunque alias Forisfacturas de eorum Bonis et Catallis in Curia predicti nunc Episcopi, et Successorum suorum, ex quacunque causa, in Vastis et Mariscis predictis emergencia et accidencia. — Et ne, quod ablit, aliqua predictorum imposterum potuerint in dubium revocari, Laudamus, Arbitramur, Judicamus, et Decernimus, quod de et super nostro presenti Arbitrio, Laudo, Sentencia, Judicio, sive amicabile Composizione, fiant Litere Indentate et Tripartite, quarum Una remaneat in Archivis Domini Nostri Regis, sub Sigillis nostris et Partium predictarum sigillata; Alia vero penes Episcopum *Eliensem*, qui pro tempore fuerit, sub Sigillis nostris, ac dictorum Prioris et Conventus; Tercia vero penes prefatos Priorem et Conventum, sub Sigillis nostris, ac dicti Reverendi Patris *Johannis* Episcopi *Elyensis*.

In quorum omnium fidem et testimonium, Nos *Henricus*, *Willielmus*, et *Rogerus*, Arbitri antedicti Sigilla nostra Presentibus, penes Episcopum *Elyensem*, qui pro tempore fuerit, remanentibus, apposuimus. Dat. in Festo S. *Nicholai* Episcopi, A.D. 1417.

Et nos *Willielmus* Prior Ecclesie Cath. *Elyen.* et ejusdem loci Capitulum, sive Conventus, predictum Laudum, Arbitrium, Sentenciam, Judicium, sive amicabilem Compositionem, in omnibus suis partibus supradictis, et prout superius scribuntur, et recitantur, pro Nobis, et Successoribus Nostri, tenore Presentium, Approbamus, Ratificamus, confirmamus, et expresse Emologamus. In cujus rei testimonium, huic parti presentis Indenture penes Episcopum *Elyen.*, qui pro tempore fuerit, remanenti, Sigillum nostrum Commune apposuimus. Dat. in Domo nostra Capitulari in Festo Ste *Lucie* Virginis, A.D. 1417 supradicto.

### NUMB. XXVIII.

*Penfio annua Walteri Lemfster, M. D. è MS Ep'i Eliensis. B. fol. 84.*

OMNIBUS Christi fidelibus ad quos presentes Litere pervenerint, *Willielmus* permissione divina Epus *Eliensis*, Salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noveritis nos concessisse, et hoc presenti Scripto nostro confirmasse dilecto et fidei nostro Magistro *Waltero Lemfster* in Medicinis Doctori, pro bono Servizio suo, Nobis et Ecclesie Nostre *Eliensi* impenso, et imposterum impendendo, quendam annualem Redditum viginti Marcarum, ad terminum Vite sue annuatim percipiendum de nobis, et Successoribus nostris, in Festo Sti *Andree* Apostoli, de et in Manerio no-

stro de *Fen-Ditton* in Comit. *Cantebrig.* per manus occupatorum sive ministrorum dicti manerii pro tempore existentium: ac etiam concessisse eidem Magistro *Lemfster* BOUCH DE COURT pro se, et duobus Servientibus suis, et ad tres Equos suos, tociens quociens eundem Magistrum *Walterum Lemfster* infra Hospicium nostrum circa negocia nostra fore contigerit. In cujus rei testimonium Presentibus Sigillum nostrum est appensum. Dat. in Manerio nostro de *Dounham*, Decimo octavo die Mensis Aprilis, Anno Domini 1478, nostreque Consecrationis Anno Vicesimo quarto.

### *Confirmacio Prioris et Conventus.*

Et nos Prior et Conventus Eccles. Cath. *Elien.* habito super premissis diligenti ac sufficienti tractatu, Omnia et singula per prefatum venerabilem Patrem nostrum, ut premittitur, concessa, rata habentes et grata, quatenus in Nobis est, et ad nos attinet, plena deliberacione, approbamus, ratificamus, et confirmamus per Presentes. Ita tamen quod predictus *Walterus Lemfster* tempore alicujus Vacacionis Episcopatus *Eliensis*, nichil pro vadiis suis, vel mensa, vel liberatura sua de Bonis Episcopatus *Eliensis*, vel Prioratus ejusdem, aut alio quocunque modo ad Ecclesiam *Eliensem* spectantibus, percipere debeat, vel quomodolibet vendicare. In cujus rei testimonium Sigillum nostrum commune Presentibus est appensum. Dat. quo ad nos in Domo nostra Capitulari vicesimo primo Die Mensis Aprilis, Anno Domini 1478.

### NUMB. XXIX.

*Installatio Johannis Morton Episcopi Eliensis.* — è MS Bibliothecæ Harleianæ Catalog. N°. 3721, cui titulus Chronicon Ecclesiæ Eliensis.

INSTALLATIO ejus erat in Festo Decollationis Sti *Joh. Bapt.* in feria 3<sup>ta</sup> A.D. 1479, sub tali modo; Predictus Dominus Episcopus existens apud manerium suum in *Dounham* discalciatus, discooperto capite, et nudis pedibus, in Rocheto, venit cum bediis in manu sua dicendo orationes Dominicas per viam, nec voluit communicare cum aliquo per viam de materiis secularibus; qui cum venisset ad Ecclesiam Ste *Marie* in *Ely*, ingressus usque ad Altare, ibidem recubuit super sedile; et dictis orationibus, obtulit super Altare 5<sup>s</sup>; deinde, lotis pedibus per clericum parochialem, venit nudis pedibus ad ostium Occidentale ecclesie Cath. *Elien*: ubi super Cathedram honeste cum pall. et pulvineribus ornatam genuflexit; deinde Dominus Prior *Rogerus Westmynstyr* tradidit ei aspersorium aque benedictæ; quo facto, idem Prior, Archidiaconus, et Subprior thurificaverunt eum; et tunc Prior tradidit ei Crucem deosculandum; quo stante, Magister *Robertus Bredon* Notarius legit coram eo Cartam Domini Regis distincte & satis aperte, in qua continebantur ea ad que obligabatur implere & custodire; et ad hoc observandum prestitit cor-

porale



porale iuramentum super Textum; quo osculato, statim Cantor incepit Preces Summe Trinitati, et cum processione solempni duxerunt eum Monachi in capis per Chorum ad Summum Altare, & ibi super Sedile honeste ornatum genuflexit; et Dominus Prior dixit super eum Orationem; et optulit super Altare 5<sup>s</sup>; tunc perrexit ad feretrum Sancte *Etheldrede*, Cantore incipiente Responsum, *O Rex Christe, tuum*, &c. -- et ibi Dominus Prior dixit super eum, super Cathedram genuflectentem, Orationem, *Deus, qui eximie castitatis*, &c. -- et ibi obtulit 5<sup>s</sup>; Deinde progressus ad Reliquias; quibus osculatis, obtulit 5<sup>s</sup>. et sic processit ad omnia Feretra Sanctarum: finitisque sic peregrinationibus suis, transiit ad Vestiarium, ubi, lotis pedibus per Clericum supradictum, dedit ei 5<sup>s</sup>. -- Tunc indutus erat vestimentis Pontificalibus, et preciosis ornamentis, et sic transiens super tapeta usque Cathedram Magnam juxta Summum Altare situatam, preciose preparatam; et ibi ostensa erat Commissio ab Archidiacono *Cantuar.* missa ad Dominum Priorem, Archidiaconum *Eliensem*, et Clericum Rotulorum: quam legebat Rotulorum Clericus; cujus auctoritate Commissarii predicti imposuerunt, et eundem Reverendum Dominum Episcopum sedere in Cathedra fecerunt; quo facto, statim Cantor incepit *Te Deum laudamus*; cantando solempniter cum organis et cantoribus: et interim Dominus Episcopus surrexit et venit ad Stallum suum in Choro, et ibi Commissarii prefati imposuerunt illum in Stallum suum, Clerico Rotulorum dicente, *Nos auctoritate predicta Installamus vos*, &c. Deinde ascendit ad Sedile coram Altare Sti Petri positum, in quo residebat; et Dominus Prior ac totus Conventus singuli veniebant, et genuflectendo osculabantur manum ejus & os. Quo finito, regressus est ad Vestiarium, & preparavit se ad Missam celebrandam de Sto *Johanne Baptista*, cum omni solempnitate et Melodia, &c. Post Missam, depositis ornatibus, ivit ad Palacium, cum Abbatibus de *Bury*, *Ramsay*, & *Thorney*, Priore et toto Conventu, et cum pluribus Militibus, Armigeris, ac Generosis, ac magna multitudine vulgi; nam magnum et sumptuosum erat Convivium.

NUMB. XXX.

*The Seruycis att the Stallation of the Bishop of Ely.* (Morton.)—Copied from an old Book in the Heralds Office, wanting the Title-page, printed in the old black character.

¶ Le premiere Course pur lestates.

¶ Un Sotelte de lyon blanke reherfal.

Think and thanke Prelate of grate prise,  
That it hath pleased the habundant grace  
Of King Edward, in all his acts wise,

The to promote hydar to his please,  
This lytil Yle, whyle thou hast tyme and space,  
For to repayre do ay thy besy cure;  
For thy rewarde of heven thou shalt be sure.

¶ Pur potage.

Frumenty and Venison.

Syngnet roasted.

Graunt luce insanis.

Roo roasted regardaunt.

Fesant roasted.

Venison in paste.

Grete Custard.

Leche porpul.

¶ Un Sotelte de Nativitate Saint John. Reherfall.

Blissyd John Baptyst, for thy Name so precieuse,  
Gracia Dei be thy true interpretation:  
Pray ever to God that in thy lyue virtuouse,  
John nowe of this See, thorough thy mediation,  
Preferued be, which be this Stallacion  
Thus is entred in to his Chirche,  
Ther longe to endure many good dedis to worke.

¶ The Second Course.

¶ Un Sotelte le glede Ely. Reherfall.

O mortal Man, call to remembrance,  
This Text, De terra tu plamasti me,  
What than avayleth all worldly plesaunce,  
Syche to the erthe thou shalt reuert;  
De lime terre, how God hath ordeyned the,  
Lodesterre of Ely, loo such is Goddys myght,  
Hym therefore to serue thou art bonden of right.

¶ Gely to potage.

Stoker roasted.

Pecoke florished.

Carpe in Soppis.

Rabetts roasted.

Breme freshewater.

Freature Semeca.

Orenge in paste.

Tarte borboyne.

Leche damaske.

¶ Un Sotelte de dieu Schepard,  
Ego sum Pastor bonus. Reherfall.

John, ofte reuolue in thy remembrance  
That of my Grace haue made the here protector,  
And of this folde I geve the gouernance;  
From rauens to be ther true defensor,  
Them to preferue euery tyme & ower;  
Lerne of me, and do thy besy deuor  
From my folke al rauens to disseuor.

¶ Responcio Episcopi.

Fayn I wolde, blissed Lorde, yf it like the,  
This Cure, of thy diuine puruauce  
And special most grace hast given me,  
To gyde and rewle after thy plesaunce,  
And to expel al rebel with thy maintence:  
From this Chirche, good Lorde, geve me tha grace,  
And so me to rewle, wyth the to have a place.



¶ The Third Courſe.

¶ Un Sotelte le Sentis Petre, Paule, & Andrewe.  
Reherfall.

Remembre when this that ſhineth bright  
With gret abundaunce, al is but vayn glorie;  
Lerne for to die, and welcome we in you Knight,  
Welcome my Prielt and Biſhop verily:  
The holy Peter, bliſſed Poule, and I  
Of this our Chirche make the Protector,  
And of this Yle the vertuouſe Gouvernor.

¶ Creme of Almondes to potage.  
Boateur rooſted.  
Perche in gelye. Curlew.  
Plower rooſted.  
Un caſte de gely florishyd.  
Crenes dendofe.  
Larkes rooſted.  
Frefhe Storgion.  
Quinces in paſte.  
Tarte Poleyn.  
Fritour bounce.  
Leche Reiall.

¶ Un Sotelte de le Egleſure letonne. Reherfall.  
Now hereby ye bee welcome into this Hal,  
From the higheſt unto the loweſt degree;  
Requiring and ſpecially praing you al,  
Yield to God the louing, and not to me;  
And ferthermore, of your benignitie,  
Domino Deo noſtro gracias agamus,  
And prayſe his Name with Te Deum laudamus.

¶ Syttyng at the high dees,  
My Lord of Ely in the myddes.

¶ On the right hande,  
The Abbot of Berye,  
The Abbot of Rameſey,  
The Prior of Ely,  
The Mayſter of the Rollis,  
The Prior of Braunwell,  
The Prior of Angleſheye.

¶ On the other hande,  
Syr Thomas Howard,  
Syr John Donne,  
Syr John Wyngelfeld,  
Syr Harry Wentworthe,  
John Sapcote,  
Syr Edward Woodhous,  
Syr Robert Chamberlayn,  
Syr John Cheyne,  
Syr William Brandon,  
Syr Robert Fynes,  
John Fortefcu.

The Abbot of Thorney, and my Lady Brandon,  
and other Eſtatis, in the Chambre.

NUMB. XXXI.

“ *Mandatum pro Declaratione pretenſe juridi-*  
“ *tionis per Romanum Pontificem uſurpate, ac*  
“ *in hoc Regno Anglie extirpate; et ut Nomen*  
“ *Pape in omnibus libris eccleſiaſticis deleatur.*  
—E Regiſtro Goodrich. fo. 25.

“ **T**HOMAS miſeratione divina Elien. E-  
“ pus. Uniuerſis et ſingulis Abbatibus,  
“ Prioribus, Decanis, Prepoſitis, Gardianis, Rec-  
“ toribus, Vicariis, Capellanis, Curatis, et aliis  
“ quibuſcunque Eccleſiaſticis perſonis ubilibet,  
“ ac intra Dioceſim et Iuriſdictionem noſtras ex-  
“ iſtentibus, tam in locis exemptis quam non ex-  
“ emptis, Salutem, gratiam et benediſtionem.  
“ Acceptis Literis ſereniſſimi, illuſtriſſimi, et po-  
“ tentiſſimi Principis et Domini Noſtri *Henrici*  
“ *Octavi*, Dei gracia *Anglie et Francie* Regis, Fi-  
“ dei Defenſoris, et Domini *Hibernie*, ac in ter-  
“ ris Supremi Eccleſie *Anglicane* Capitis, Nobis  
“ directis, ac ejuſdem Regie Maieſtatis ad infra-  
“ ſcripta exequenda Mandatum continentibus;—  
“ Vobis ex parte ejuſdem Regie Maieſtatis man-  
“ dantes, etiam Nos firmiter injungendo Man-  
“ damus, quatenus ſingulis diebus Dominicis et  
“ ſolem nibus Feſtis proxime poſt intimationem  
“ preſentium ſequentibus, intra Miſſarum Solem-  
“ nia aut Veſperarum Officia, cum major affue-  
“ rit Populi multitudo in Eccleſiis veſtris, pub-  
“ licetis ſeu publicari faciatis Populo verbis An-  
“ glicanis integrum et perfectum tenorem verbo-  
“ rum ſequentium:—“ Ye ſhall underſtande  
“ that the unlawfull Iuriſdiction, Pouer, and  
“ Authorite of longe tyme uſurpid by the Biſ-  
“ ſhope of *Rome* in this Realme, who then  
“ was called Pope, ys now by God’s Lawe juſt-  
“ ly, lawfully, and grownde Rayſons and Cau-  
“ ſes, by authorite of Parliament, and by and  
“ withe the hole conſent and agrement of all  
“ the Biſhops, Prelatis, and bothe Uniuerſities  
“ of *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, and alſo of the  
“ hole Clergie of this Realme, extinct and  
“ ceaſed for ever, as of no ſtrengithe, value, or  
“ effecte in this Realme of *Englonde*. In whiche  
“ Realme the ſaid hole Clergie, Biſhopes, Pre-  
“ latis, and either of the Convocations of bothe  
“ Provinces, with alſo the Uniuerſities of *Ox-*  
“ *forthe* and *Cambridge* have accordyng to God’s  
“ Lawes, and uppon good and lawfull reaſons  
“ and grownds, knowleged the King’s Highnes  
“ to be the Supreme Hede in Erthe, immediate-  
“ ly under God, of the Churche of *Englonde*:  
“ whiche there knowleage being confeſſed, and  
“ now by Parliament eſtabliſhed, and by God’s  
“ Lawes juſtyfiable to be juſtlye executid; ſo  
“ ought every trew Chriſten ſubjecte of this  
“ Realme, not onely to knowleage and obedy-  
“ ently recogniſe the King’s Highnes to be Su-  
“ preme Hede in Erthe of the Cherche of *Eng-*  
“ *londe*, but alſo to ſpeke, publiſhe, and to  
“ teche there Childern and Seruaunts the ſame;  
“ and



“and to shewe unto them, who that the said  
 “Bisshope of *Rome* hath hertofore Ufurpyd, not  
 “onely upon God, but also upon Prynces of this  
 “Realme and there Progenitors. Wherefore;  
 “and to thentente ye sholde the better beleve  
 “me herin, and take and receave the trueth, as  
 “ye ought to doo, I declare this unto yow, not  
 “not onely of my self, whiche I do knowe to  
 “be true, but also declare unto you, that the  
 “same ys certyfyed to me frome the mouthe of  
 “myne Ordinarye the Bisshop of *Ely* under his  
 “Seale, whiche I have redy to shew unto you.”

“Mandamus insuper, ut in quibuscunque Li-  
 “bris Sacris sive prophanis intra Ecclesias vestras  
 “existentibus, et in quacumque earumdem parte,  
 “Textu, sive Rubrica, Nomen Pape nominatum  
 “aut signatum, ut nominetur, reperiatis; aut  
 “quicquid in publicis secretisve Collectis et Ora-  
 “tionibus, Sententiaque generali quotannis qua-  
 “ter declarari solita, legi, dici, aut commemora-  
 “ri solet aut posset, quod ad potestatis, jurisdic-  
 “tionis, aut autoritatis ejusdem conservationem  
 “aut ampliacionem pertinere; sive jurisdictioni  
 “sacratissime Regie Majestatis predictæ quovis  
 “pacto derogare posse videatur, id omne quam  
 “celerrime, omni cum diligentia, expungatis aut  
 “deleatis, aut expungi aut deleri faciatis: non  
 “omittatis sub pena contemptus. Dat. nostro  
 “sub Sigillo in Manerio nostro de *Somersham* 27  
 “die Mensis Junii, A. D. 1535.”

*Injunctiones Domini Thome Elien. Episcopi,*  
 A. D. 1541.—e Registro Goodrich, fol. 41.

“**T**HOMAS miseratione divina *Eliensis* Epif-  
 “copus ad Causas Ecclesiasticas Decidend.  
 “infra Diocesim nostram *Eliensem* auctoritate re-  
 “gia fulcitus, Universis et singulis Rectoribus,  
 “Vicariis, Curatis, et aliis Ministris Curam infra  
 “Diocesim et Jurisdictionem nostram *Elien.* pre-  
 “dict. habentibus quibuscumque, Salutem, gra-  
 “tiam, et benedictionem. Vobis communiter et  
 “divisim committimus, ac firmiter injungendo  
 “ex parte Serenissimi in Christo Principis et  
 “Domini Nostri Domini *Henrici* Octavi Dei gra-  
 “cia *Anglie et Francie* Regis, Fidei Defensoris,  
 “Domini *Hibernie*, ac in terris, sub Christo, Ec-  
 “clesie *Anglicane* Capitis Supremi; Mandamus  
 “quatenus statim post receptionem presentium,  
 “in Ecclesiis, Capellis, et Curis vobis commissis  
 “diligentem inquisitionem faciatis de omnibus et  
 “singulis Articulis sequentibus;

“First, for all Images & Bones of suche as the  
 “Kyng’s people reforted and offered unto.

“Item, for the Ornaments, Writtings, Table-  
 “Monument of Myracles or Pylgrymage, Shryne,  
 “Covering of Shryne appertaining to the saide  
 “Images and Bones.

“Item, of all those whiche do offer and sett  
 “up Candles agaynst the Kyng’s Injunctions.

“Item, of all those that dothe not observe  
 “and kepe the said Injunctions accordyng to the  
 “meaning of the same.

“Et si quid ad notitiam vestram deducatur  
 “quod in duobus prioribus Articulis contentum  
 “sit, illud sub testimonio trium fidedignorum  
 “hominum sic deleatis et aboleatis, ut nulla e-  
 “jusdem impofterum memoria remanere poterit;  
 “aut si id commode facere nequeatis, Mandamus  
 “ut cum omni celeritate et diligentia ad nostram  
 “presentiam, ubicumque tunc in Diocesi nostra  
 “*Eliensi* fuerimus, id deferatis, deferre curetis.  
 “Quos autem noveritis quippiam adversus duos  
 “posteriores Articulos fecisse, non solum moneatis  
 “ut ab hujusmodi vanis et superstitiosis rebus, et  
 “transgressionem Injunctionum Regiarum abstine-  
 “ant; verum etiam eorum omnium et singulorum  
 “Nomina et Cognomina Nobis aut Vicario nostro  
 “in Spiritualibus Generali personaliter, aut per Li-  
 “teras vestras patentes, offense perpetrare seriem  
 “in se continentes, certificetis et significetis. Et  
 “hec omnia et singula facere non omittatis, sub pe-  
 “nis in Injunctionibus Regiis expressis. Dat. sub  
 “Sigillo Nostro apud *Ely* 21 die Mensis Octobris,  
 “A. D. 1541, et nostre Consecrationis Anno 8<sup>vo</sup>.

## NUMB. XXXII.

*Petition of Matthew Parker ABp. Eleēt of Cant.*  
*Edmund Grindall Eleēt of Lond. Richard Cox*  
*Eleēt of Ely, William Barlow Eleēt of Chichester,*  
*and John Scory Eleēt of Hereford, to*  
*Q. Elizabeth.* From a MS, in the Library of  
 Bene’t Coll. Camb. Miscellanea III. p. 381.

**M**OST humbly shewithe your Excellent Ma-  
 jestie your lowly Oratours and loving Sub-  
 jects we underwritten, that lyke as your most  
 Noble Father of immortal memorie King Henry  
 the VIII, and your most Godly and Noble Bro-  
 ther King Edward the VI, in their pryncely  
 zeale which they bare to the state of Christ’s  
 Faith, did moche tendre the advauncement of  
 Larning, by cherishing of Students and encow-  
 raging of Mynysters; whereby they were the  
 more hable to do their duties to God, and to  
 serve the neecessitie of the Realme, by which their  
 royall & pryncely affection they purchafed per-  
 petual fame and prayse, as well within their own  
 Realmes, as through owte all Christendom: So  
 we trust undoubtedly that your Grace, being en-  
 dued with the benefites of knowlege farre above  
 any of your noble Progenitors, will be enclined  
 no less to the mayntenance of Larning for the  
 setting furthe of Christ’s true Religion, now for  
 want of sufficient Mynysters in great jeopardie  
 of decaye. In respect whereof we trust that your  
 Highness’ gracious disposition will yet stave and  
 remitte this present alteration and exchange (as  
 we suppose in our consciences, under reforma-  
 tion of your great wisdom,) not mete to procede  
 for the inconveniences thereof now partly per-  
 ceived like to ensue, and upon such good grounds  
 and reasons as we culde particularly describe in  
 wrytyng,



wrytyng, if your Highnes' pleasure were to ad-  
mitte us to the declaration of the same.

And yet lest we shuld appere not to confide  
your Highnes' manyfold and great charges dayly  
iusteyned: In most humble wile, We Fyve under-  
written, for us and the Province of Canterburie,  
do offre to give unto the same yerely amongst us  
one annuall Pension of one Thousand Marks  
during our Lyves & contynuaunce in the Bishop-  
ricks for and in consideration of the exoneration  
of the said exchaunge.

How be it, most gracious Sovereigne, as most  
obedient Subjects, in true and lowly allegiaunce  
of our hertes, we sue and praye that if this our  
said supplication shall not be thought mete to take  
place, that yet your Highnes wuld condescende  
favourably to peruse thies our Petitions following;  
which we be perswaded to be grounded upon nat-  
urall equitie, godly conscience, and good confor-  
mitie, for most part of them, to the Act passed.

1. First that the Vicaridgs of impropriated Benefices  
apointed in exchaung may be made just Lyv-  
ings for the Incumbents of the same: and that  
the Chauncells and Mansion-Houses decayed  
might be considered by survey, to some reason-  
able proportion of allowaunce in the exchaunge.
2. Item, that yerely Pensions payable may be  
reprised out of the Personage set over in ex-  
chaunge, and that yerely distributions with  
the charges of Church Books, &c. may be  
allowed, suche as the Injunctions bynde the  
Rectories withall.
3. Item, that where the Manor with the Ma-  
nors is withdrawn from us, that we be not  
hereafter importably charged with the set-  
ting furthe of Men to warre.
4. Item, that perquisites of Courtes, and  
Woods, Sales, & other such casuall profytes  
may be percels of the extent of the Manors,  
and that consideration may be had for the  
equivalent recompence of the same, and that  
allowaunce may be made of Procurations  
and Synods payeable at the Visitations of  
Personages impropriat, and also allowaunce  
for the meane profytes, after the deathe of the  
Incumbent, to the next Successor, so charged  
in the First-frutes and Tenthes, which meane  
profytes were translated by Act of Parlement  
from the Bishop to the Successor of the Be-  
nifice, from the death of his Predecessor.
5. Item, that Fees to Keepers of Parkes and  
Woods, not yet valued, be not reprised out  
of the value of the Manors, and that the said  
Parkes and Woods may be also valued, and  
that Corne, Shepe, Fowle, and Fyshe, with  
cariage & other commodities may remayne  
for hospitallitie to the Bishoppes.
6. Item, that the Patronage appendant to the  
Manors exchaunged may be reserved to the Bi-  
shoppes Sea, and that the Bishoppes of the  
new-erected Churches may geve the Prebends

of those Churches, as in other is used, the ra-  
ther to maynteyne lerned Men & Preachers.

7. Item, if any of the Tenthes and Rectories  
be evicted from us by ordre of Lawe, that  
then recompence may be made.
8. Item, that we may have remedie by Lawe,  
to recover the Tenthes denyed or delayed, as  
well as when they were percels of the reve-  
nues of the Crowne; before which assurance  
no exchaunge can reasonably passe.
9. Item, that no Rentes be returned for Spi-  
ritual possessions which be paid into the Ex-  
chequer for annual Rentes Temporall reserv-  
ed, *Nomine Decimæ*.
10. Item, that Bishoppes may be discharg-  
ed of all Arrearages of Subsidies and Tenthes,  
and other incumbrances passed in the daies  
of the Predecessors, and in tymes of Vaca-  
tion; and that for the first yere of our Fruits  
paying, to be discharged of Subsidie, as be-  
fore tyme hath ben used.
11. Item, that it may please your Highnes to con-  
tinue the newe-erected Seas founded upon  
great considerations by your noble Progenitor  
the said King Henry; and that the Benifice of  
*Clyffe* may be annexed to the Sea of *Rocheſter*;  
and from the Sea of *Cheſter*, the Benifice late  
annexed thereunto be not dismembered, in con-  
sideration of the exilitie of their Bishoppes.
12. Item, we most humbly desyer your Maje-  
stie that in consideration of our chargeable  
expectation, and for the burden of necessary  
furnytur of our Howſes, and for the dis-  
charge of the great Fees paid before, and at  
the restitution of Temporalities, to suffer us  
to enjoye the half years Rent last past at Mi-  
chaelmas; and that our First-frutes may be  
abated, and distributed into more yerres, for  
the better mayntenaunce of Hospitallitie.  
And that we may be put to our owne Suer-  
tie at the composition of our Frutes. Which  
gracious favour in the latter premisses, if your  
Highnes do not shewe towards us, we shall  
not dare entre our functions whereto your  
Grace hath nominated us, being to import-  
able ells for us to beare.

All which Petitions, most redoubted So-  
vereigne Ladie, we make to your Highnes, not  
in respect of private worldly advancement  
or temporall gayne, (as God knoweth our  
herts,) but in respect of Godd's glory, Christ's  
Faithe and Religion, your Grace's Honour  
and discharge of your conscience to all the  
world, and for the honorable report of your  
Nobilitie, and to the confort of the Realme.

Your Highnes' most humble Orators

Matthue Elect Cant.  
Edm. Elect London.  
Richard Elect Ely.  
Willmus Elect Ciceſtren.  
John Elect of Hereford.



## NUMB. XXXIII.

*Reasons for making a Bishop of Elye.\** From the Harleian MS. N<sup>o</sup> 6850. Sect. 69. fol. 297, &c.

‘Reasons for making a Bishop of Elie.’

‘**B**Y making a Bishop of Elye, Your Majestie shall fill that Sea which hath ben 14 yeeres voyde. — Remove the opinion of kepinge a Bishopricke so longe in your Majestie’s hands. — By placinge an olde Bishop there, it will not (lykely,) be long out of your Majestie’s hands. — The Bishop’s Howses of accesse, now in great ruine, will be repayed. — The Dyoces shall be vizited, touchinge Papiests and yll disposed people. — And a Leasse may be made from the Bishop to your Majestie, and so to be given to my self, of vi. c. l. by yeere of those possessions for such reasonable yeeres as the Bishop may graunte, without deminishinge any usual rent for the same. — The Tennants may have thereby good and perfect estats of their Fermes from me, which will encorage them to repayre their Howses, and mayntayne their Husbandrye, which now they forbear, whyle their estats be uncertaine and doubtfull. — Your Majestie hereby shall not (as it is likely,) lose any profit, regardinge the Tenthes, Subsidies, and First-fruits you ar to receave, and to be quited of chardgs you now sustayne, how soone it is lyke to retorne to your hands againe: but rather be bettered in commoditie, yf two or three more Bishops be removed, by havinge First-fruits of every of them. — The Bishops that shall be translated will be glad so to be advaunced to Bishopriks of better renew. — And your Majestie shall inable me your most bounden pore Servante to serve you in that great and chardgeable place it hath pleased your Heighnes to appoynte me.’

‘How the filling of the Sea of Elie may be nere as valuable to her Majestie as the Sea vacant.’

‘That the placinge of a Bishop in the Sea of Elie will be as profitable to her Majestie, as now the vacancye thereof is, besides divers other reasons, for the which also yt appeareth to be varie expedient: — The clere proffitt of the Bishopricke of Elye, as it hath ben answered to her Majestie since the Sea became last voyde, (as will appeare by the Accompts remayninge with Mr Auditor Neale,) hath been communibus annis xv. c. li. — In liew whereof, Her Majestie by placinge a Bushopp there shall yerely have for the Tenthes thereof ccxiiij. li. ix. s. x. d. q. For the Subsidie yerely iij. c. lii. s. viij. d. — For the First-fruits (the Tenthes beinge deducted,) each yere, by the space of

‘ij yerres ix. c. lx. li. xiiij. s. ij. d. ob. qu. — in all yerely to be answered to her Majestie M. v. c. lviij. li. x. s. viij. d. ob. q. dim.

‘Moreover, the Bushopp of Norwich who is iij. s. viij. yerres olde beinge translated to the B. of Elie, which is of lesser chardge and jurisdiction, there will come to her Majestie for the First-fruits of the Bushoprick of Norwich at least viij. c. li.

‘And so it appeareth that her Majestie shall take profit, and not any losse by the placinge of a Bushopp in the Sea of Elie.

‘By occasion also of this translation, divers other removes may become verie profitable to her Majestie, viz. The First-fruits of the B. of Hereforde, by that B. remove to Norwich viij. c. li. — The First-fruits of the B. of Chichester, by his remove to Hereford vi. c. li. — The First-fruits of the B. of Chester, by his remove to Chichester iij. c. lx. li. — And the like out of the B. of Peterborowe, by his remove to Chester iii. c. li. — In all MM. x. li.

‘Furthermore the B. of Elie beinge bestowed upon so olde a Man as the B. of Norwich, is verie likely shortly to be againe at her Majestie’s disposinge.

‘Divers Services ar to be performed by that B. as findinge of Horse and Men in tyme of War, &c. — The Clergye will like well of fillinge the Sea that hath been so longe vacant, and the opinion of keepinge a Bishopricke so longe in her Majestie’s hands, will be removed. — The B. Houses of accesse by the long vacancye growen in great decaye, and many Tenements within the B. houlden at will, and by uncerteine estates, (and therefore much ruinated to the impoverishinge of the Sea,) hereafter will be repaired and kept in good order. — The number of Papiests by the longe want of a B. harbored and increased in that Diocesse will be diminished.’

‘Small losse to her Majestie yf the L. Keeper have a Leafe of parte of the Landes of the Bishoppricke of Elye.

‘Your Majestie may make a Bissshop of Elie, so as little or no losse of profit will be to your Majesty, for the reasons followinge.

‘Your Majesty shall have of the B. of Elie in Tenths yerely ccxiiij. li. ix. s. x. d. q. — For every Subsidie out of the same ccc. iij. s. viij. d. — For the First-fruits of the same, being M. ix. c. xxi. li. viij. s. viij. d. to be paid in three yerres, will be per annum vj. c. xl. li. viij. s. x. d. — And your Majesty shall have the First-fruits of the B. of Lincoln, Worcester, Chichester, or of the Livings of the Dean of Durham, or of some other Ecclesiasticall person woorthy or meet for that Dignitie, which will be at the least

\* They appear to have been drawn up by Sergeant Puckering, sometime Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, by way of Petition for himself, in recompense of his Services. N. B. Bp. Cox died July 22, 1581; and this was wrote when the See of Ely had been 14 years vacant; and therefore about the Year 1595.



'least viij<sup>c</sup>. *li*. within three yeres, and wil be per  
'annum cclxvj. *li*. xij. *s*. iij. *d*.—And so your  
'Majestie may have by making a B. of Elie in  
'profitt yerely during three yeers M.v<sup>c</sup> iij. *li*. —  
'which is as much as now is cleerly answered to  
'your Majesty for the B. of Ely, as will appeer  
'by the Auditor's accompts.

'But it may be objected, that if the B. live  
'after three yeers, then her Majesty shall have  
'losse. — For answer thereunto, — Such one  
'may now be appointed B. of Elie, as shal be  
'thought woorthy to be removed and advanced  
'to some other of the better Bishopricks, when  
'they shall fall void; unto one of which (if any  
'of them so happen to become void within three  
'yeers, as likely it may be,) Your Majesty may  
'translate that B. of Elye to such See vacant, and  
'so have Elie in your Highnes' hands again, as  
'now you have; — Or if your Majesty please  
'to make him first B. of Elie whom your High-  
'nes intends to make B. of Winchester, and  
'keep the revenues of Winchester in your hands  
'for a yeer, untill you shall please to remoove  
'Elye to Winchester; then Your Majesty shall  
'have more profitt therby, than now you have,  
'(for that Winchester B. is per annum clare  
'MM. iii. *li*) and then have Ely into your hands  
'again, as before.

'For a Leas of part of the possessions of Elye.

'Yt may please your most excellent Majesty,  
'to graunte me, (your most bounden Servante,)  
'your princelie favor, that I may have a Lease  
'of parte of the possessions of the Bishoprike of  
'Elye, not exceedinge a thirde parte thereof in  
'valeur, for such reasonable terme of yeeres, as  
'the Bishop may graunte unto your Majesty,  
'yeeldinge to the Bishop and his Successors the  
'best accustomed rents, now or at any tyme  
'heretofore answered to the Bishop for the same,  
'& performinge all usual covenants for pay-  
'ment of Rents and doinge reparations. — For  
'the accomplishment whereof, yt may please your  
'Majestie to translate one of the oldest Bishops,  
'whoe may make the same Lease, by whose  
'great age, it is likeley, the same Bishopricke  
'will not tarie longe forth of your Majesty's  
'hands.

'I fynde no other suit so fitt for your Majesty  
'to graunte me, as this; for the exchanges, fee-  
'fermes, and Leases of your Majesty's owne  
'Lands, ar to be taken from your owne selfe,  
'and from your Royal revenews. — And Licences  
'for transportations, or things forbidden, ar not  
'so fitt for your Majesty to graunte, nor for me  
'to aske.

'Objection. — Yt may perchance be objected,  
'that your Majesty havinge now the renew of  
'the Bishoprike, doth forgoe the same, by mak-  
'inge a Bishop.

'Answer. — Your Majesty, by geevinge the  
'Bishoprike, shall have the First-fruits, which is  
'one yeers profitt, and the Tenthes and Subsi-  
'dies besides, which you cannot have whilest the  
'the Bishoprike remayneth in your Majesty's  
'hands, which together (as I take it,) will be as  
'profitable to your Majesty, as it is, now the  
'Bishoprike remayneth in your hands. — And  
'your Majesty shall hereby have moreover the  
'First-fruits of that Bishoprike, from whence your  
'Majestie shall be pleased to translate a Bishop to  
'Elye, and also of so many as you shall be pleased,  
'by that occasion to remove or translate.

'Objection. --- The Clergei-men may per-  
'chance thinke your Majesty doth decrease the  
'revenews of the Church, by makinge a Lease  
'of the Bishop's Lands.

'Answer. --- So longe as the inheritance, and  
'the ordinarie rents of the Bishoprike is not de-  
'minished, thei can not thinke any thinge there-  
'of; but rather may be glad, that after so longe  
'vacancei, your Majesty will be pleased to make  
'a Bishop; because ther will be one Sea more  
'filled then hath ben many yeers heretofore. ---  
'And wher for wante of a Bishop, a great num-  
'ber of Papiests ar harbored in that Dioces, and  
'the Bishop's howses much decayed, your Ma-  
'jestic by makinge a Bishop may easely remedy  
'these inconveniences. --- And moreover, if your  
'Majestie make a Bishop of Elye, he is to doe  
'Your Heighnes divers Services, as fyndinge of  
'Men and Horses in tyme of Warr, &c.

#### NUMB. XXXIV.

*The Boke of the erection of the King's newe Col-  
lege at Elye, with the Names & Portion of li-  
vinge assigned to the Deane, and all other Of-  
ficers appointed for the accomplishment of the  
same.*—From a MS in the Library of Bene't  
College Cambridge, intituled MS Miscella-  
nea XX. pag. 293.

The Dean there.		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Robert Steward late Priour there to have	_____	120	7	6
Eight Prebendaries there.				
Richard Coxe Doctor of Divinitie to have	_____	20	0	0
Matthewe Parker Doctor of Divi- nitie to have	_____	20	0	0
William Mayne D <sup>r</sup> of Lawe to have		20	0	0
Giles Ayer Bach. of Divinitie to have		20	0	0
William Lyson a Master of the Chauncery	_____	20	0	0
Sir John Custons late Munke there.		20	0	0
Sir Robert Hamonde late Munke there	_____	20	0	0
Sir John Warde late Munke there		20	0	0
		160	0	0
Eight				

# APPENDIX.

\* 41

Eight Peticanons there.	l.	s.	d.
Sir John Stoneham late Munke there	10	0	0
Sir Edmund Coots one of the same } house	10	0	0
Sir William Sewall late Munke there	10	0	0
Sir John Chateris late Munke there	10	0	0
Sir John Bury late Munke there	10	0	0
Sir John Corbet late Munke there	10	0	0
Sir Nicholas Duxford one of the } said house	10	0	0
Sir William Whittered late Munke } there	10	0	0
	80	0	0

The Gospeler and Epistoler there.			
Sir John Spirarde Gospeler there	8	0	0
Sir Thomas Mawnds Pistoler there	8	0	0
	16	0	0

Four Studentes in Divinitie.			
Thomas Wilberton late Munke there	6	13	4
John Barker to have yerely	6	13	4
Stephen Cheston to have yerely	6	13	4
	6	13	4
	26	13	4

Eight Singing-men to Sing Pr----- in the Quere.			
John Godman, a Singingman there } to have	6	13	4
James Teryngton to have	6	13	4
Matthewe Storie to have	6	13	4
William Cowpar	6	13	4
William Smith the yonger	6	13	4
John Coope	6	13	4
Thomas Benet	6	13	4
John Halfe to have	6	13	4
	53	6	8

A Scole Master for the Querifiers.			
William Smith the elder	10	0	0

Eight Querifiers.			
Roberte Hullyard to have	3	6	8
John Cooke to have	3	6	8
John Wellx	3	6	8
Thomas Ellefter	3	6	8
John Salmon	3	6	8
Thomas Coste	3	6	8
John Silvertop	3	6	8
Richard Smithe	3	6	8
	26	13	4

Two Sextens there.			
Launcelott Lubson chief Sexten	6	0	0
Roberte Wolname under Sexten	6	0	0
	12	0	0

The Scole Master of the Grammar	l.	s.	d.
Scole.			
Ralphe Holland	16	13	4
The Uthere there.			
William Theolas	8	0	0
	24	13	4

XXIII. Scolers to be taught Grammar.			
William Larder	3	6	8
Thomas Tirrell	3	6	8
Lancelot Fleure	3	6	8
Thomas Steward	3	6	8
John Alen	3	6	8
William Slough	3	6	8
Henry Pratt	3	6	8
William Hamond	3	6	8
John Saunders	3	6	8
William Steward	3	6	8
Nicholas Floure	3	6	8
Robert Warde	3	6	8
William Parker	3	6	8
Lancelot More	3	6	8
John Crowe	3	6	8
Thomas Parker	3	6	8
Robert Bulward	3	6	8
William Bluton	3	6	8
John Skele	3	6	8
John More	3	6	8
John Thurlowe	3	6	8
Robert Odam	3	6	8
Thomas Wefeman	3	6	8
Robert Steward	3	6	8
	80	0	0

6. Aged men decayed in the King's Warres or Service.			
Richard Plumsted	6	13	4
Henry Hugans	6	13	4
Richard Jekell	6	13	4
John Rombolde	6	13	4
Lewes Walter	6	13	4
John Camton	6	13	4
	40	0	0

The Almes yerely.			
To be distributed yerely in Almes	20	0	0
Reparations yerely.			
Reparations of the Church and } Manors	100	0	0
For making and mending High-ways.			
Item to be employ'd in mending } High-ways	20	0	0

The Steward of the Lands.			
Henry Lucas Steward of the Lands } there	6	13	4

The Auditor there.			
Griffyn Tyndall Auditor there to have	10	0	0

\* F

Two



Two Porters there.	<i>l. s. d.</i>
Thomas Parker chief Porter	6 0 0
Richard Halydoun under Porter	6 0 0
	<hr/> 12 0 0
The Butler there.	
Nicholas Craford to have Wages	6 0 0
	<hr/>
Two Cookes to have ther wages and dietts.	
Laurence Alee Chief Cooke	6 0 0
Jesopp Proper under Cooke	3 6 8
	<hr/> 9 6 8
The Caterer.	
Robert Beridge Caterer there to } have yerely	6 0 0
	<hr/>
The Deane's expences in receyving of the Rents, and Surveying of the Lands.	
Item the Deane's expences, ut supra	10 0 0
	<hr/>
Extraordinary Charges.	
Allowed for extraordinary charges } yerely	20 0 0
	<hr/>
The Summe total of all the Charges } aforesaid	869 14 2
Sum of the ded---ns not charged, with the Tenthes in the com- } mon possession	179 6 8
	<hr/>
For the Tenthes	83 11 6
For the First-fruts	41 15 9 ob
	<hr/> 125 7 3 ob

And so to bere all Charges, and to paye the  
Tenthes, and First-fruts, it maye please the  
King's Majestie to endowe the Church withe  
—99s. 0s. 17d. ob.

Richard Ryche.

### NUMB. XXVIII.

*Observations on the Arms of the Bishops of Ely,  
in a Letter from Mr. Cole.*

"Dear Sir,

**T**O acquit myself of my Promise to you at  
Cambridge, I here send you such Observa-  
tions on the Arms of the Bishops of Ely as have  
fallen in my way.

1. *Hervey*. His Arms in *Anglia Sacra*, vol. i.  
p. 616. seem to be fictitious.

2. *Nigellus*. His also are certainly so. p. 618.

3. *Geoffrey Ridel*. p. 631. These appear to be  
more authentic: but I have no Authority to  
support them.

4. *William de Longchamp*. His Arms corre-  
spond with those of his Name, in an old MS of  
Heraldry in the Library of King's College: but

I have no other Authority than *Angl. Sacr.* v. i.  
p. 632. to ascertain them to him, which how-  
ever seems sufficient.

5. *Eustace*. In my Copy of *Angl. Sacr.* p. 633.  
I have with a pen changed the *Field* of his  
Arms from *Ermines* to *Or*; but upon what Au-  
thority I cannot at present recollect.

6. *John de Fountaines*. His Arms, as in p. 634,  
of *Anglia Sacra*, seem to be merely chimerical  
and fanciful, and not at all in the style of He-  
raldry.

7. *Geoffrey de Burgo*. In my Copy of *Angl.*  
*Sacr.* p. 635. his Arms are specified by a pen to  
be, *Az. 3 Fleurs de Lis Erm.*

8. *Hugh de Northwold*. The Arms assigned  
him in *Angl. Sacr.* p. 635. seem to be fictitious;  
or probably taken from some old Seal, where it  
is not unlikely that the Arms of Ely and  
St. Edmund's Bury Abby, might be depicted.

9. *William de Kilkenny*. I know nothing more  
of these Arms, than in *Angl. Sacr.* p. 636.

10. *Hugh de Balsham*. *Gules, 3 Pales Or*; as  
marked in my Copy of *Angl. Sacr.* p. 637,  
which agree with the Arms of his College, ex-  
cept the *Border*, which is an usual addition to  
Religious Foundations.

11. *John de Kirkeby*. I know nothing more of  
his Arms than in *Angl. Sacr.* p. 637.

12. *William de Luda*. The Arms assigned him  
in *Angl. Sacr.* p. 638, are false Heraldry, viz.  
*The chief checquy Or. & Argent.*

13. *Ralph de Walpole*. I know nothing to con-  
tradict the Arms given by the Monk of Ely in  
*Angl. Sacr.* p. 639, which are the same given by  
the Earl of Orford.

14. *Robert de Orford*. His Arms in *Angl.*  
*Sacr.* vol. i. p. 640. are *Gules, 3 Crowns perforated*  
*by 3 Keys Or*; which are confirmed by their  
being depicted on the Tablet of the Knights  
and Monks of Ely, published by Fuller in his  
Church History.

15. *John de Ketene*. I have nothing to add to  
his Arms more than in *Angl. Sacr.* vol. i. p. 641.

16. *John de Hotham*. His Arms in *Angl. Sacr.*  
p. 643. are nearly the same with those in the  
Chancel window of the Church of Ditton near  
Cambridge, where they are thus blasoned, *Bar-ry*  
*of 10 Ar. & Az. on a Canton Or. a Martlet*  
*Sable*. They were there in 1745.

17. *Simon Montacute*. His Arms in *Angl. Sacr.*  
p. 649, I do not know how to account for;  
they being not an usual bearing, for one of his  
profession, and at that time. I should rather  
think his real and true Arms are those on Stone  
several times to be met with on the Walls of the  
Cathedral, and particularly, if I remember right,  
on



on the outside of the West End to the North of St. Mary's Chapel, where they are only 3 *Fusils*; and should be thus blazoned, *Arg. 3 Fusils in Fesse Gules.*

18. *Thomas de L'Isle.* His Arms in Anglia Sacra, p. 652, are a mere fiction: his true Coat, as I took it in 1747, from an original Seal of his, in the Archives of Corpus Christi College in Cambridge, is, *A Cheveron between 3 Trefoils slip'd.* This agrees with the Arms of the Family of *Lisle*, as I find in the aforefaid Manuscript of Heraldry, which are thus blazoned, *Gules, a Cheveron inter 3 Leaves Or, slip'd Vert:* so that the Colours are also recovered. I cannot be mistaken in this Account of his Arms, as the Deed is dated at Downham 3 Febr. 1352, and 8th of his Consecration: on the one side of the Seal at the bottom are the Arms of the See of Ely, and on the other his own Coat, as above; and between them, is a Bishop on his knees praying to the figure of a Bishop between two Women, under Canopies. What makes me so particular is, that the Arms of his Successor,

19. *Simon Langham*, are said in Anglia Sacra, p. 663, to be a *Cheveron embatteled Gules inter 3 Trefoils Vert*; which are almost the same assigned to *Thomas de L'Isle*: which Arms thus blazoned, *Or, a Cheveron embatteled Gules, between 3 Trefoils slip'd Vert*, are also given to *Bishop Langham* in the new Edition by Dr. Drake of Archbishop Parker's *Antiquitates Britannicæ*, p. 373. Yet on Cardinal Langham's Monument in Westminster Abby, these Arms appear not; though in the former-quoted MS of Heraldry, the Arms of Langham are as here appropriated in Anglia Sacra.

20. *John Barnet.* The Arms of Bishop Barnet in Angl. Sacr. p. 664, accord exactly with those in a North Window of Elme Church, which are thus blazoned, *Argent, a Saltire and in Chief a Leopard's Face, Sable.* There were two of them perfect in 1745, when I was there; and by one of them this imperfect Inscription — *dale Capell D'ni Johis* — which, no doubt, might be supplied by *Barnet Epi Eliensis*. The Arms of the See of Ely are also there.

21. *Thomas Arundel.* The Arms assigned to Bishop Arundel in Angl. Sacr. p. 664 are, *Gules, a Lion rampant within a Border engrailed Or.* But this is not exact; as may be seen in many places of my Collections for Cambridgeshire. His true Arms are thus Blazoned, *Quarterly, 1st. and 4th. Gules, a Lion rampant Or: 2d. and 3d. Checquy Or and Azure; all within a Bordure engrailed, Argent.* These Arms are still to be seen in the East-Window of the Chancel of the Church of Hadenham; and also in a small North window of the Chancel of Arkesden Church in Essex, where they are beautifully coloured and as neatly let into the uppermost

stone-work, and surrounded by red glass, in which are set 3 Golden Crowns, for the See of Ely: set up there probably by a Vicar of that Church, who had obligations to him. The same Arms are carved on an oaken stall in the Chancel of Landbeche Church. But I need not be so particular, as his Pedigree clearly evinces these to be his true Bearing, bating the Border, which was added as an addition for an Ecclesiastic: for which see a *Discourse by Francis Thynne, Lancaster Herald*, published by Hearne, in the *Collection of Discourses by Antiquaries*. p. 256. The Bishop was third Son of Richard Fitz-Alan Earl of Arundel, by his Wife Alice, Daughter of William, and Sister and Heir of John Earl Warren. Now the Arms of Fitz-Alan are, *Gu. a Lion Rampant Or*; and those of Warren are *Checquy Or. & Az*; and these he bore quartered with his own, in right of his Mother.

22. *John Fordham.* The Arms appropriated to him in Angl. Sacr. vol. i. p. 666. are, *Sable, a Cheveron between 3 Crosses flory Or*; which are confirmed by divers authentic vouchers. The first I shall mention is one of his own Seals, appendant to an original Deed, relating to some Lands in Barham near Linton, bearing date 5. Henr. 4. The Seal was round and bigger than a Crown-piece, but the sides were broken off, and no Letters remaining but at the bottom *Gracia.* The Shield has these Arms, *A Cheveron inter 3 Crosses flory*, and above the Shield among the open-work of the Seal, are 3 *Crowns* for the See of Ely. This Seal was lent to me by Mr. Thomas Martin of Palgrave in Suffolk in 1752. — I have observed likewise Bishop Fordham's Arms on two Gravestones in the Diocese of Ely: the Bishop having been Patron to both the Persons to whom they belong; both of whom also had been Archdeacons of Ely. The first is on the Grave-Stone of Thomas Patesly Rector of Great-Shelford; where he lies buried in the Chancel of that noble Church, which he built from the Ground, together with the Chancel and Tower: the Spire which stood on it fell down in the high Wind about the beginning of this Century: he also glazed it with painted Glass; gave Books, Images and Vestments, and all other Ornaments to it, in a most liberal and ample manner: and out of gratitude to his Patron, put his Arms on the Stone Font in the Church, and ordered the same to be put on his Tomb-Stone, with those of the See of Ely, in a separate Coat; which are again carved in Stone Shields at the turning of the Arch, which divides the Nave from the Chancel; in which last he lies buried under a large grey Marble, on which is his Effigies in Brass in a Cope, under a Canopy, above which, on either side, are the Arms of the See of Ely, and his Patron Bishop Fordham. — The



other Grave-Stone having Bishop Fordham's Arms on it, is that of Robert Wetheringset in the Chancel of Wilberton Church; which Chancel he had rebuilt. His Monument is a large grey Marble, having his full Effigies in Brafs, habited in his Cope, and under a Canopy; above which, on either side, are the Arms of the See of Ely and those of his Patron Bishop Fordham. The Bishop's Arms, together with those of his See, are likewise carved in Stone-Shields on each side of the Arch of the West-Door of the Tower of Granchester Church near Cambridge; which ascertains the time when it was erected. In the North-Isle of the Presbytery, are his Arms in the above colours.

23. *Philip Morgan*. I know nothing more of his Arms than in *Angl. Sacr.* vol. i. p. 666.

24. *Lewis de Luxembourg*. His Arms, as in *Angl. Sacr.* vol. i. p. 668, are thus blasoned, *Chequy Arg. & Az. on the Arg. a Torteaux, on the Az. a Fleur de Lis Or*. These Arms are totally wrong: no doubt his real Arms are the same ascribed to his Niece the celebrated Jaqueline or Jaquetta de Luxembourg, Dutcheis of Bedford, who bore, *Quarterly, 1st. and 4th. Argent, a Lion rampant, Quevefurché, Gules, crowned, Or, for Luxembourg, 2d. and 3d. Gules: a Star of 12 Points Argent*: as in *Sandford*, p. 313. being the same which are quartered by her Daughter Queen Elizabeth Woodville, Wife to King Edward IV: At least the Lion of Luxembourg certainly belongs to him.

25. *Thomas Bouchier*. The Arms assigned him in *Angl. Sacr.* p. 671, are not exact. His right Bearing is in a Window of Fulbourn All Saints Church near Cambridge, and ensigned with a Mitre; as also in a Window of Littlebury Church in Essex: so that we may be sure these are his true Arms, put up in his Life time, viz. *Quarterly 1st. and 4th. Arg. a Cross engrailed Gu. inter 4 Water-Bougets, Sab. 2d. and 3d. Gul. a Fesse Arg. int. 10 or 12 Billets Or; all within a Bordure Azure*. The Border was added to his paternal Coat, because he was an Ecclesiastic; not in *Derogation*, as Mr. Thynne vainly imagines; but as an *honourable Difference* in regard to his sacred Character. Mr. Thynne, Lancaster Herald in 1605, has a small Tract entitled, *The Dutye and Office of an Heraulde of Armes*, published by Mr. Hearne, among many other Treatises, under this Title, *A Collection of curious Discourses, written by eminent Antiquaries*: I shall transcribe so much of it as relates to the Clergy's bearing Coat Armour; not out of any value I conceive it is worth; but to confute his foolish conjecture: it is at p. 255, where on the Margin is wrote, "Armes granted to the Clergy ought not to descend to their Children." He then proceeds thus "Armes appointed for Bishoppes ought not to descend to their Children, for they are

not within the Compasse of the Lawes of Armes; which only taketh Notice of Bishoppes as Officers of the Church, and not as military Men, or Persons to be employed in Offices or Affaires of Layemen: though some of them have been very great Souldiers. For both *Canons* and *Examples* do forbidde the same; since in temporall Actions in Tyme past it was alleadged against them. For it was objected to Hubert Walter Archbishop of Canterbury, being Chiefe Justice and Chauncellor in the Time of King John, that he intermeddled in Laye Causes, and dealte in Bloode: as alsoe the same was layed against the other Cleargimen, for haveinge of Offices in the Exchequer, and the King's Howse, when some of them were Clerckes of the Kitchin, some Treasurer of the Howsehold, &c. Yea so much did our Auncestors derogate from the Armes of Bishoppes, as that the Bishoppes which were interested in the Armes of their Auncestors, might not beare the Armes of his Howse without some notorious Difference, not answerable to the Difference of other younger Bretheren: as did the Bishopp of Lincolne, Henry Burghershe; the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Arundell; the Archbishop of Yorke, Richarde Scroope; the Bishopp of Norwiche, Henry Spencer, and many others, who did not beare the common Differences of Armes of younger Sonnes; but great and notorious Differences; as Borders, some engrayled, some with Myters, or such lyke, &c." — Thus far Mr. Thynne: to whom it may be replied, That it is no wonder, that both *Canons* and *Examples* are against the Bearing of Coat Armour by the Sons of Clergymen: since it was an Absurdity even to have supposed it: the Clergy, by the *Canons* being prohibited to marry, and consequently supposed to have no Children: therefore it can never be thought strange that there are no *Examples* of that sort. As to the Objections against Archbishop Hubert Walter, and other Ecclesiastics, who meddled too much perhaps in secular Matters, and more than was consistent with their Function as Churchmen; though this may be ever so true, yet it makes nothing to the Argument of their being disqualified to bear Armories: what was objected against these sort of Clergymen, was, not their bearing Coat Armour, or Family Ensigns of Honour, but, executing secular Offices, in Prejudice to their primary Institution and Destination in the Church. Nor is what he says, in respect to the derogation from the Clergy's Arms, less absurd: the differences born by them in their Shields, as I conceive, are rather to be looked upon as honourable, than disgraceful, or derogatory. Nor can it be reasonably supposed, that being of an Order and Profession, which was more especially held sacred in those Times, to which the Writer refers, would be so far held disgraceful, as to lessen or derogate from natural Rights



Rights and parental Prerogatives. Is it credible, for instance, that Thomas Bouchier, Bishop of Ely, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury and Cardinal, who would take place of his elder Brother, the Earl of Essex, merely on account of his dignity in the Church; should yet be thought so much to disgrace, or derogate from the honour of his Family, as not to be suffered to bear his Father's Coat Armour, because he was an Ecclesiastic? It is ridiculous to suppose it. Accordingly we see in Fulbourn and Littlebury Church Windows, that he gave his full Family Arms, within a Bordure Azure: not as any abatement of honour, as it is reasonable to imagine; but rather as an additional and acquired mark of honourable distinction, added to his paternal Coat, as being of so great dignity in the Church. Another instance of which we have in the Bearing of Bishop Arundel's Arms.

26. *William Gray*. His Arms are thus blazoned, *Gules, a Lion rampant, and a Bordure engrailed Argent*. They are thus depicted in a Window of Botesham Church in Cambridgeshire, as also in the East Window of the North Isle of the Presbytery, and carved on Stone Shields on the walls near the said Window. This shews that Bale is mistaken when he says, p. 64. vol. 2. of his *Scriptores illustres Britanniae*, that Bishop Gray was of the Family of the Lords Grey of Codnor; who gave for their Arms, *Barry of 6 Argent & Azure*; the same as those born by the Duke of Kent. The same Arms with those in Botesham Church and Ely Cathedral, are assigned him in the *Historia Eliensis* published by Mr. Wharton in *Anglia Sacra*, vol. i. p. 672, where that learned Editor, in a Note on his Author, very justly questions the veracity of Bale, as one, not to say of a suspicious, but of a notorious Character. Mr. Wharton's Words are, *Willielmus Gray, S.T.D. illustri Baronum Gray de Codnor Familia ortus, &c. si Baleo Fides*. And we see how justly his Credit was suspected, even in so small a matter, where religious differences were out of the question: but where those interfered, he knew no moderation.

27. *John Morton*. The Arms given him in *Anglia Sacra*, p. 673, are not sufficiently explicit: they should be thus blazoned, *Quarterly Gules & Ermine, on the 1st. and 4th. a Goat's Head erased Argent*. And this agrees with his Arms carved various times on the noble Tower of Wisbeche Church, and as they were formerly in a Window of Linton Church in Cambridgeshire, as I have it in a Manuscript of Church Notes taken above a Century ago: however these accord not with those for our Bishop in his own Cathedral twice, viz. in the East Window of the North Isle of the Presbytery, and in another Window of the same Isle, where they are still remaining, and are thus blazoned, *Quarterly Gules & Ermine, on the 1st. and 4th. 3 Goat's Heads erased Argent, attired Or*.

28. *John Alcocke*. His Arms in *Anglia Sacra*, p. 675, are utterly false, as may be made evident by many authentic Vouchers: as for instance, from his own Register, where in the first Leaf, they are very nicely tricked out with a Pen, impaled with those of his See of Ely, viz. *on a Fess inter 3 Cocks Heads erased, a Mitre with Labels*. The same are on an oaken Beam in the Church of Wisbeche; and are thus in Colours on the outside of the Tower of Great St. Mary's Church in Cambridge, to the erecting of which he had been a Contributor, *Argent, on a Fesse inter 3 Cocks Heads erased Sable, Crests & Gills Gules, a Mitre Or*: in the same manner as they are twice painted on the East wall of the Chancel of the Church of Wilberton: which makes me admire, that Prior Robert Steward in his *Continuatio Historie Eliensis*, p. 675, published by Mr. Wharton in vol. i. *Angliæ Sacræ*, should make so great a mistake in this Bishop's Arms, so near his own time, as to say, that he bore, *a Mitre between 3 Goats Heads: Fert Mitram inter tria Caprarum Capita*. He was probably ruminating on Bishop Morton's Goats.

29. *Richard Redman*. His Arms omitted by Prior Robert Stewarde, are thus given by Mr. Wharton in *Anglia Sacra*, vol. i. p. 675. *Arma sunt tria Pulvinaria*. These Arms were formerly in the East Window of the Cathedral of St. Asaph in 1645, which he had fitted up, and in many other parts of that Church. But his real Arms, as still remaining in the uppermost Window but one, to the East, of the South Isle of the Presbytery of his Cathedral of Ely, where they are thus blazoned, as I took them in 1759, are *Quarterly, 1st. & 4th. Gules, 3 Cushions en Lozenge & Tasseled, Ermine; 2d. & 3d. Gules, a Lion rampant Argent*. They are also thus on his Tomb in the Presbytery: except that the *Lion* is in the 1st. & 4th. *Quarter*, and the *Cushions* in the 2d. & 3d.

30. *James Stanley*. His Arms in *Anglia Sacra* are entirely false, and bear no resemblance to his real ones, which are thus blazoned, *Quarterly of 4 Peices, 1st. Quarterly 1st & 4th. Argent, on a Bend Azure, 3 Bucks Heads caboshed, Or, for Stanley: 2d. & 3d. party per Fesse indented Azure & Or, in Chief 3 Plates for Latham: 2d. & 3d. Gules, 3 Human Legs conjoynd at the Thighs & armed, in Triangle, Argent, Spurs Or, for the Isle of Man: 4th. as first*. These Arms are curiously carved on Wood, painted and gilt, with Crests and other Devises, and probably designed for an Ornament over a Chimney Piece, by Bishop Stanley for the Palace at Somersham or Downham; and when those Houses were demolished, became private Property. That they belonged to Bishop Stanley, is beyond all question, as the initial Letters of his Name *J. S.* occur twice on it; and on two Escallop Shells these Letters *S. J.* which no doubt allude to his Patron St. James: there are also



also on it the Arms of the See of Ely, and this Motto, *Domine Gressus meos dirige*. It was formerly in an old Brick House near the Church in Wilberton; which when Mr. Barlee of Clavering in Essex pulled down, his Tenant at the Burysted, carried it to that House, where it was in 1759.

31. *Nicholas West*. The Arms assigned him in *Anglia Sacra*, vol. i. p. 676, are far from being compleat, as being without Colours and deficient in Description; for the *Roses* have *Leaves* and *Stalks* to them. They are luckily preserved in their proper Colours against the East wall of *Wilberton Church*, where they are thus blasoned, *Argent, a Cheveron Sable between 3 Roses Gules, seeded Or, slip'd & Leaves Vert*: which agree in general with those attributed to him in *Anglia Sacra*, on which Account those assigned him in the *MS Historiette of King's College*, which goes under the Name of *Hatcher's MS*, as they are more complex, and hardly Heraldry, are to be rejected.

32. *Thomas Goodrich*. He has no Arms assigned him in *Anglia Sacra*: yet his true Coat is happily preserved in two places, though defaced and lost on his Tomb Stone in the Presbytery. The first were in a Window in a large Brick House in *St. Radegund's Lane*, opposite the great Gates of *Jesus College* in Cambridge in 1744, and are thus blasoned, *Quarterly, 1st. & 4th. Argent, on a Fesse Gules, inter 2 Lions passant Sable, a Fleur de Lis Argent, inter 2 Crescents Or, for Goodrich: 2d. & 3d. Argent, on a Cheveron engrailed inter 3 Trefoils slip'd Sable, 3 Crescents Or, for William-son*. These are ensigned with a rich Mitre, and round the Arms is a Garland, in which at the top and two sides are these capital Roman Letters T. E. for *Thomas Goodrich Eliensis* or *Episcopus*, with his Motto at bottom, *Si Deus nobiscum, quis contra nos?* The same Arms are engraved on a Stone Shield on the outside wall of the Gallery under the Window of the Bishop's Palace at Ely; which shews that it was built by him.

33. *Thomas Thirlby*. I have met with no Authority in Glass, Seals or Carving of Bishop Thirlby's Arms: but what I take to be equivalent to them, is this Account by Mr. *Blomefield* in his *History of the Bishops of Norwich*, p. 392. under the Article of Bishop *Thomas Thirlby*.

“ This Bishop having, (as I suppose) no paternal Arms, at first bare a *Rebus*, or *Device*  
“ instead of Arms, viz. *Per Pale Argent &*  
“ *Gules, a capital Tau counterchanged*; that  
“ Letter being the initial one of both his  
“ Names: but afterwards he bare, *Vert*, 10  
“ *Escallops Argent*: which Coat, I imagine,  
“ he had obtained a Grant for.

34. *Richard Cox*. His Arms are thus blasoned in *Hatcher's MS* of the *Provosts and Fellows of King's College*, viz. *Argent, 3 Cocks Gules, on a Chief Azure, a Pale Or, charged with a Rose Gules, inter 2 Ostrich Feathers Argent*. They are so blasoned also in the last Edition of *Archbishop Parker's Book De Antiquitate Ecclesiæ Britannicæ*; and I think likewise the same on the painted Picture on Board of the *Funeral of Bishop Cox* in the Bishop's Palace at Ely.

35. *Martin Heton*. His Arms on his Tomb, quite at the top under the Mitre, are still remaining; though possibly the Colours are gone: if they are, I can supply them by some *Church Notes* taken at a *Visitation* in 1684: and now in the *Herald's Office*: they were painted on the West side of the Wainscote between the Nave and Chancel of *Linton Church* in *Cambridgeshire*, viz. *Quarterly, 1st. & 4th. Argent, on a Bend engrailed Sable, 3 Bulls Heads coupè Argent. 2d. & 3d. Argent, a Man's Head coupè inter 3 Fleurs de Lys Sable*. The two Shields under the Canopy are the Arms of his two Daughters, as I take it, impaled by their Husbands Coat.

36. *Lancelot Andrews*. His Arms, as on various Prints of him in my Collection, are thus blasoned, *Argent, on a Bend engrailed, cotised Sable, 3 Mulletts peirced Argent*.

37. *Nicholas Felton*. His Arms painted in one corner of an excellent Picture, which I bought at *Slaughter Bacon's Sale*, of this Bishop, are, *Gules, 2 Lions passant Ermine, crowned Or, and a Mullet in the dexter Chief Argent, for a Difference*: it is impaled with the See of Ely and ensigned by a Mitre. This Picture I gave to Bishop *Gooch* to be hung up in the Gallery at Ely, and to belong to the Palace for ever.

38. *John Buckeridge*. *Or, 2 Pales & 5 Cross Crofslets fitchè en Saltire Gules*.

39. *Francis White*. The Arms of Bishop White under his Print, when Dean of *Carlisle* are not rightly blasoned; for in *Thoresby's History of Leeds*, p. 257, there is his *Pedigree* and these Arms assigned him, *Gules, a Cheveron between 3 Boars Heads coupè Argent*.

40. *Matthew Wren*. The Colours of this Bishop's Arms I had from a MS in the *Herald's Office* in 1748, together with his *Pedigree*, viz. *Argent, a Cheveron inter 3 Lions Heads erased Sable, on a Chief Gules, 3 Cross Crofslets Or*. They are the same as on his *Original Seal* which I have seen, appendant to his *Act of Consecration* of *Corpus Christi College Chapel* in Cambridge in 1662.

41. *Ben-*



41. *Benjamin Laney*. His Arms as on his Tomb under a Mitre, are thus to be blasoned, *Or, on a Bend inter 2 Fleurs de Lys Gules a Lion passant Or; a Martlet Sable in Chief for a Difference.*

42. *Peter Gunning*. His Arms on the top of his Monument under a Mitre are thus blasoned, *Gules, on a Fesse inter 3 Doves Argent, 3 Crosses patee Gules.* The same are under a Print of this Bishop by Loggan.

43. *Francis Turner*. The Arms belonging to this Bishop, as taken from an *Original Seal* ratifying a Composition for the Tythes of *Wimpole* in 1686, are thus expressed, *a Lion rampant between 3 Crosses moline:* and are thus blasoned, *Or, a Lion rampant inter 3 Crosses moline Gules.*

44. *Simon Patrick*. The Arms on his Monument in the Presbytery under a Mitre are thus blasoned, or should be, *Gules, 3 Pallets vairé Argent & Azure, on a Chief Or, a Lion passant Azure.* Though in the Print of this Bishop by *White*, the *Lion* is *Sable*.

45. *John Moore*. His Arms on his Monument in the Presbytery under a Mitre are thus blasoned, *Ermine, on a Cheveron Azure, 3 Cinquefoils Argent:* which exactly correspond with those under his Print by *White*. Though in my *MS Heraldry* the *Cinquefoils* are *Or*.

46. *William Fleetwood*. The Arms of this Bishop, as on his Monument, ensigned by a Mitre, are *Party per Pale nebule Or & Azure, 6 Martlets counterchanged.* But his Arms on the Plate of the Ichnography of the Cathedral of *St. Asaph*, which is inscribed to him, have *a Crescent in Chief for a Difference.*

47. *Thomas Greene*. This Bishop's Arms ensigned by a Mitre, in the Presbytery at *Ely*, are thus blasoned, according to the Print of it, *Azure, 3 Bucks trippant, Argent:* but in my *MS Notes of Heraldry*, they are, *Vert, 3 Bucks trippant Or.*

48. *Robert Butts*. His Arms, as on his elegant Monument in the Presbytery, are thus blasoned, according to your Print of it, *Azure, on a Cheveron inter 3 Mulletts of 6 Points Or, 3 Lozenges Gules.* But, I conceive this is not exact, as I have a Note where they are *Estoiles of 6 Points*, and not *Mulletts*; and this I know to be the Bearing of *Sir William Butts*, Physician to King *Henry VIII*, whose Monument is in the Church of *Fulham*, and of which I took Memoranda in 1758; and from him, I know Bishop *Butts* was said to be derived. Which Arms with *Estoiles*, are various times in the Windows of *Benet College Hall*, where one of this Family was formerly Master.

49. *Thomas Gooch*. The Arms, as Bishop *Gooch* bore them, before the Family was advanced to a *Baronetship*, were, *Party per Pale Argent & Sable, 3 Talbots passant counterchanged; on a Chief Gules, 3 Leopards Faces Or;* which correspond with those under his Print by *Mac Ardell*, and his Episcopal Seal when Bishop of *Norwich*: but afterwards they were somewhat altered.

50. *Matthias Mawson* gives for his Arms, as I have seen them on his Coach formerly when Bishop of *Landaff*, *Party per Bend sinister Argent & Sable, a Lion rampant Or.* Yet they are engraved in one of *Buck's Views of the Castle of Cambridge*, inscribed to him, as being then Vice-Chancellor, in this manner, *Ermine & Ermines per Bend sinister, a Lion rampant Argent.*

If you think these Observations worth printing, they are much at your Service. But as this, as well as the other Paper on the *Ely Tablet*, are on a subject not much valued by the Learned, you are to do with them as you shall judge proper. I am sorry I have been so petulant in the former Paper on *Dr. Stukeley*, whose Memory I venerate, and whose Abilities as a Scholar and an Antiquary are too eminent to be affected by my too hasty Remarks made in the Life-time of that most ingenious and lively Writer.

I am, Sir, &c.

Blecheley near Fenny Stratford,  
Decemb. 14. 1766.

W. COLE."

✠ The Arms of the Bishops of *Ely*, (Plate XIV.) are taken chiefly from *Anglia Sacra*, vol. i. 616, &c. and from a modern copy, now in the Palace at *Ely*, blazoned and continued down to Bishop *Butts's* time: Except only two or three instances, where there seemed to be good reason for departing from those Copies: — particularly Bishop *L'Isle's* are altered from those in *Anglia Sacra*, vol. i. p. 652. and others inserted, on Mr. *Cole's* authority, being taken from an Original Seal of that Bishop: — Cardinal *Luxemburgh's* Arms, though inserted on the authority of *Angl. Sac.* p. 668, I am afraid are not the true ones; for which see Mr. *Cole's* remarks above. — Bishop *White's* Arms are inserted, (instead of those in the *Ely* Copy,) on Mr. *Thoresby's* authority, as cited by Mr. *Cole*. — The Plate of the Arms of the Bishops of *Ely*, not having been printed off at the time of Bishop *Mawson's* death; I have added those of *Dr. Edmund Keene* the present Bishop, which are, *Argent, a Talbot Sable, collared Or, on a Chief indented Azure 3 Cross-Crosselets Or.*

J. B.

Feb. 4, 1771.



MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS in ELY CATHEDRAL, *exclusive of those of the BISHOPS and other DIGNITARIES, which are inserted under their Names in the foregoing Work.*

*In the North Isle of the Choir.*

*On a black Marble.*

In the Vault underneath, with the late Bishop *Patrick*, lies his pious Relict Mrs. PENELOPE PATRICK, aged 79; who died at *St. Edmund's Bury* the 10th of *April* 1725. Esteemed when living by all that knew her, and very much regretted by the Poor of that Place, who now feel the want of her frequent and liberal Benefactions.

*On a black Marble.*

Quod Mori potuit lætissimæ desyderatissimæque Conjugis  
ELISABETHÆ BELLMONTANÆ,  
Sub hoc Marmore condidit moestissimus Maritus J.B.  
Hujus Ecclesiæ Canonicus :  
Maij xxxi. An. Dom. MDCLXII.

*The following is the modern Inscription on the Tomb of Bishop HOTHAM, refer'd to, p. 158.*

JOHANNES HOTHAM Episcopus Eliens. Angliæ Cancellarius, deinde Regni hujus summus Thesaurarius, hic situs est. Vir prudens, justus et munificus; qui Lanternam a ruina, sumptu 2406*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* in hanc admirandam structuræ formam restituit; et in perficiendo Presbyterio supra 2034*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* expendit. Cum annos 20 sedisset, Paralysi per biennium correptus, tandem decessit Januarii 25, 1336.

*In the South Isle of the Choir.*

*On a black Marble.*

To the Memory of Mrs. CATHARINE GREENE, Relict of the late Lord Bishop of ELY; who died the 20th of March, 1770. Aged 88.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lyeth the Body of Mrs. ANNE FLEETWOOD, (Relict of Dr. William Fleetwood late Bishop of Ely:) She departed this life the 5th of March 1725. In the 75th year of her Age.

*On a plain mural Tablet.*

Here lies the Body of FRANCIS SAY, Esq;  
Principal Librarian to her late Majesty Queen CAROLINE,  
And Secretary to five succeeding Bishops of this Church,  
with whom he lived beloved and honoured:  
He very early in Life gained great Reputation,  
And preserved it unblemished to his Death.  
No one was ever less covetous of Praise,  
No one deserved it more.  
He was a Scholar, a Gentleman, a Christian;  
Learned without Pedantry, Complaisant without Flattery,  
And Religious without Ostentation:  
These rare Endowments  
Were accompanied with a singular Modesty,  
Which casting a Beauty and Lustre over them,  
Made His, as far as might be, a perfect Character.  
He was just to all the World, and the World was just to him;  
For he had not an Enemy in it.  
He died Sept. 10, 1748. Aged 58.

*On a brass Plate.*

Yet a very little And He that will come  
Shall come

The Speritte and the Bride say come  
Lett him that heareth say come  
And lett him that is athirst say come  
Even soe come, Lord Jesu &c.

URSULA { TYNDALL by Birth  
COXEE by Choice  
UPCHER in Age and for Comfort.

Anno Ætatis 77.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lieth the Body of ELIZABETH ALLIX, Sister of the late Rt. Hon. Sir Charles Wager, and Wife of Peter Allix, D. D. Dean of this Church. She departed this Life the 2d of December, 1750.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lyeth the Body of ANNE JONES, Wife to THO. JONES Prebendary of this Church; a Woman of uncommon virtues and endowments, a dutiful Child, a chaste loving Wife, a tender careful Mother, constant in her Devotion, extensive in her Charity, affable in her Conversation, and exceedingly ingenious in every thing she took in hand. She was born 17 July 1698, was marry'd 11 Jan. 1717, and dy'd 29 June 1730. She had 10 Children, of which one, a Girl still-born, lyeth in Downham-Chancell, 3 viz. Jane, Elizabeth, William, lyeth by her here on the North-side. Her Husband hath caused this Stone and Inscription to be set on her Grave, in token of his surviving great Love and Esteem for her.

Tu, Lector, eandem

mortis iture viam,

Æternaturos mores imitare sepultæ,

Optato felicem exitum,

Nomen ama meritum.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lyeth the Body of KINGSMILL LUCY of Castle Cary in the County of Somerset, Esq; Eldest Son of William Lord Bishop of St. Davids, in hope of a joyful Resurrection; who departed this Life June the XII. M.DC.LXXIV.

*On a white Stone.*

In Memory of ANTHONY Son of WILLIAM THOMPSON of Somersham in the County of Huntingdon, Esq; and Rebecca his Wife. He died March the 5th, 1738, Aged 13 years.

*On a mural Monument. Plate XXXVIII.*

Ante novem Lustra ac Tædas Thalamumque ROBERTI  
Condidit hic Fatum Festinans Ossa STUWARDI.  
Nescius hoc ne sis, volui Te Scire, Viator:  
Quod si plura cupis Generosam consule Famam.  
Virtutis Præmium Virtus. 1570. Jan. 19.  
Vivere quisque diu quærit - - - - -  
- - - - - potest vivere Nemo diu.

*On a mural Monument. Plate XXXIX.*

Secundum Redemptoris Mundi Adventum expectat hic  
MARCUS STEWARD Miles Filius Hæresque Simeonis Steward  
Armig. Nicholai Steward Armig. geniti, qui Patrem habuit  
Richardum Steward Armig. quem genuit Thomas Steward Ar-  
mig. Johannis Steward Militis Filius; Cujus Pater erat  
Johannes Steward Miles, ejus Nominis in Anglia primus:  
Qui cum Jacobo Roberti Scotiæ Regis Filio in Franciam tran-  
sfretans (Regnante tunc Henrico quarto) vento eorum propo-  
sitis opposito, in Anglicano Littore applicuerunt, ubi diu post  
pro Obsedibus custodiebantur. Sed hic Johannes in Amo-  
rem cujusdam Virginis Anglicanæ Nomine Mariæ Talmach  
incidens, obtentaque Johannæ Reginæ venia, Cui Ancilla in-  
serviebat, Eam in Conjugem cepit, in fidemque Regis Hen-  
rici dum vixisset, solemniter est juratus.—Hujus Pater erat  
Alexander, quem genuit Andreas Steward Miles, Alexandri cog-  
nominati Ferocis Filiorum Natu Minimus, Cujus Pater erat  
Walterus Steward a Dundevale in Scotia dictus. Sed Primus  
in Genealogia hac Summonitus, et hic Sepultus, ex Anna  
una Filiarum et Hæredum Roberti Huicke Armig. Reginæ  
Elizabethæ Medici primarij varios habuit Liberos, quos  
omnes inadultos fata rapuere præter duos, Mariam scilicet  
Gulielmo Forster in Com. Berk Militi Nuptam, et Simeonem  
Steward Militem Hæredem Filiumque suum moestissimum  
qui



qui pii officii singularisque erga Patrem Amoris gratia hoc posuit Monumentum, ubi Inscriptum legas, quod, cum multos Annos et Bello et Pace pro Patria feliciter egisset, Ætate tandem confectus, Militari Cingulo et Auratis Calcaribus a *Jacobo* Rege Serenissimo Ornatus, Senex pene Octogenarius fatali Necessitati concessit, 28 *Februarii*, Anno Salutis, 1603.

Premendo Sustulit. Ferendo Vicit.

*On a Monument affixed to a Pillar.*

Hic inhumatus jacet Optimæ Spei Adolescens GULIELMUS LYNNE Gen. Filius et Hæres Apparens *Johannis Lynne* de *Basingborne* in Com. *Cantabrigiæ* Ar. Qui quidem *Gulielmus* immatura Morte peremptus in ipso Ætatis flore 27 agens Annum 22 Die *Julij* Anno Dom. 1589, non sine Summo Amicorum omnium Dolore, ex hac Vita placide Migravit: Unicam relinquens Filiam *Catherinam* Scilt. quam etiam 17 Die *Martij* sequentis præpropera Mors Eadem Naturæ Lege Natam Sustulit, Simulque jam cum Patre æterno fruitur Gaudio.

Posuit Amoris ergo Mœstissima illius Conjux *Elizabetha* Filia *Gulielmi Stewardi* de *Ely* Arm.

*On a black Marble.*

Here layeth the Body of Mr. JOHN MINGAY, who was Receiver and Expenditor to the Right Honourable the Corporation of the Great Levell of the Fenns for 18 years, and was buried 14 July, 1676.

Here lyeth the Body of Mrs. JANE MINGAY, late Wife to Mr. *John Mingay*, whodied the 13th of *Nov.* 1672. Aged 57.

*On a black Marble.*

M. S.

JOHANNIS CREMER Generosi,

Ex Antiqua familia in Agro *Norfolciæ* oriundi;

Necnon Uxoribus ejus ALICIÆ CREMER,

*Algernoni Peyton* de *Doddington*, S.T.P. Filiæ natu minimæ;

Quæ prioribus nuptiis *Johanni Nalson*, LL.D.

Feliciter etiam conjuncta fuerat.

Hic } obiit anno ætatis { 39 } Salutis { 1703.  
Illa } { 67 } { 1717.

*On a black Marble.*

Underneath this Marble lie the Remains of

ELIZABETH WILLIAMS,

Relict of the Rev. *Philip Williams*,

Who was Rector of *Doddington* in the Isle of *Ely*.

They lived thirty years together

Constantly employed in works of Piety,

Charity, and Hospitality.

She survived her Husband sixteen years,

And upon April the 6th, 1736,

Resigned her truly pious Soul into the hands of her Maker.

Also close by her lies her Daughter, ALICE WILLIAMS,

Who died December the 29th, 1739,

Possessed of the amiable Virtues of her most excellent Parents.

*On a black Marble.*

ROBERTUS MINGAY Arm. *Norfolciensis* Ortu;

*Johannis Mingay* Armigeri Filius Natu Tertius;

Aulæ de *Clare* in Academia *Cantabrigiensi*

Non ita pridem Socius,

Societati Conservatorum Paludis *Bedfordiensis* dictæ,

Ingenti sumptu jam olim Exhaustæ

TRIBUNUS ÆRARIUS

Sub hoc Tumulo Sepultus jacet.

Vir utique Probitatis in omni Fortuna exercitæ,

Vitæque Morumque vix imitabile Exemplar.

Utpote qui se præstitit, DEO, nempe,

Solennes juxta Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ Ritus,

Cultorem vere Religiosum;

Patriæ et Societati prædictæ singulari officio Devotum;

Conjugi Fideli, Fidissimum Conjugem;  
Multæ Soboli, Patrem Providentissimum;  
Amicis omnibus, ex animo Amicum;  
Atque vel eo Nomine Desideratissimum;  
Pauperibus omnigenis diffusa Charitate Notissimum.  
Hunc (Quem defunctum pari et æquo Luctu Prosequuntur  
Patria, Salutis Pacificque tantum non viduata Custode;  
Conjux Mœstissima, dejecta Conjuge;  
Proles indulgentissimo orbata Patre;  
Sanguine Propinqui, Amicitia Propinquiores,  
Utrique optimo privati Consortio;  
Egeni Thesaurario, orbi Orphanotropho destituti;) Amplissimo Beatæ Immortalitatis præmio Donavit  
DEUS OPTIMUS MAXIMUS  
Calendis *Junij* XII. Anno Salutis nostræ MDCLXXXIX.  
Ætatis suæ xxxv.

*On a mural Monument.*

PETRUS GUNNING

Annum apud Academicos 4tum ingressus,

Ætatis vero 21mum,

Suorum Spem moriens fefellit

5to. Cal. *Feb.* 1735.

Fratrem præpropere secutus

HENRICUS GUNNING

6to. Cal. *Mart.* proxime sequentis

e vita excessit Annos nat. 8.

Post annos demum viginti et octo

supra dictorum Pater

HENRICUS GUNNING A.M.

Coll. Div. *Joh. Cant.* olim Socius,

Eccles. hujus Præcentor, et Præl. Theol.

Cum suis requiescit.

*In the South Transept.*

*On a white Stone affixed to the Wall.*

Under this Marble lyeth the Body of JOHN THOMPSON, Gentleman, late Chapter Clarke of this Church, who was buried the 10th of July, Anno Dom. 1615.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lyeth the Body of CHARLES LANY, Son of *John Lany*, Esq; who died the 26th Day of *September* Anno Domini 1670, in the sixth yeare of his age.

*On a black Marble.*

His jacet HENRICUS GILBERTUS,

Eximie quidem (dum vixit) spei, singularisque (etiam præter ætatem) puer indolis: Qui Cœlis animam dedit Anno Octavo Ætatis suæ, Id. Sept. A.D. 1676.

*On a Free Stone.*

Here lyes interr'd the Body of WILLIAM BLUDWICKE of *Ely* Gent. Sonn to *Wm. Bludwicke* of *Huntingdon*, Gent. who departed this life on the 12th of *August* 1687, and in the 22d year of his age.

*On a Free Stone.*

Here lyeth the Body of GEORGE MAYFIELD, Son of *George Mayfield* of *Ely*, Gent. Who departed this Life *November* 25, Anno Dom. 1695.

*On a black Marble.*

M. S.

GULIELMI SILVERTOP hujus Ecclesiæ Canonici Minoris, Necnon Scholæ *Ellensis* Archididascali, qui obiit 4to Die Aprilis, Anno Dom. 1690, Ætatis suæ 38vo.

Vir utpote qui facili felicique Ingenio se omnibus gratum carumque reddidit: Cum vero semper impense cavebat, ne vel Dei Honorem, vel Hominis famam Linguae petulantia læderet, Et Deus et Homo (uti spes est) ILLO DIE Beatum prædicabunt.

\* G

On



*On a black Marble.*

Reliquiæ Reverendi Viri SAMUELIS HUTTON,  
hujus Ecclesiæ Minoris Canonici,  
Sub hoc Marmore Conduntur.  
*Editba etiam Dilectissima Conjux*  
*in Eodem Dormit Tumulo.*

Et Hic et Illa exoptantes hinc evocari.

Vir si quis alius Integerrimus,  
Qui omnimoda Canonicatus sui Munia  
Ea sedulitate, ea Pietate atque illibata  
Probitate Administravit,

Ut pene iniquum esset non Sperare  
emigrantem Animam in Beatorum  
Sedem esse cooptatam.

Obiit 3. *Octob.* A.D. 1718. Ætat. suæ, 68.

Juxta hoc Marmor quiescunt  
*Stephanus Hutton Frater, Maria Pardiæ*  
*Soror Ejusdem Samuelis Hutton.*

Hæc Obiit 18 *Julij*, 1718. Ætat. suæ 69;  
Ile 24 *Aug.* 1696; Ætat. suæ 33.

*On a Free-Stone.*

THOMAS INGRAM died May the . . . 1699, aged 53 years.  
He was one of the Virgers of this Church, and Clerk of  
the Works of the Revd. Dean and Chapter.

*On a mural Monument.*

Near this place lyeth the Body of Dame MARTHA, Daugh-  
ter of Mr. *Penington of Suffolke*, Relict of *Robert Mingay*,  
Esq; and Wife of Sir ROGER JENYNS, who put up this  
for her. She dyed A.D. 1701, and was according to her  
desire interred in the Vault here with her first Husband.

*On a black Marble.*

In Memoriam PHILIPPI WADE Gen. hic loci  
In Spem vitæ Æternæ dulce obdormientis:

Dum inter vivos ageret

Ecclesiæ Filij Pientissimi,

Superiorum Cultoris Devotissimi,

Pauperum Patroni Beneficentissimi,

Nunc tandem Omnibus Desideratissimi.

Denat. quinto Die *Decembris*

Anno Domini 1710. Ætat. suæ 67.

Necnon *Elizabethæ* ejus Conjugis

Cum unicæ tum Dilectissimæ:

Mor. 7 Die *Augusti* Anno Dom. 1708, Ætat. suæ. . .

Hoc Marmor Gratitude Ergo

Posuit *Augustinus Wade* Nepos

Observantissimus. Anno Domini 1713.

*On a grey Marble*

ELIZ. Uxor JOHANNIS BARNES, Gen. obiit 29 die Aug.  
Anno Domini 1719. Ætatis 87.

*On a black Marble.*

Under this Marble

(Among many of his Relations)

Lieth the Body of JAMES HAWKINS B. M.

46 years Organist of this Church:

Eminent in his Profession,

Regular in the discharge of his Duty,

Cheerful and friendly in his Deportment.

He died the 18th of *October* 1729,

In the 67th year of his Age.

Also of MARY his Wife,

Inferior to none in conjugal Fidelity,

Prudent in the management of her Family,

The tender Mother of ten Children:

Having been long afflicted

With bodily Infirmities,

She piously resigned her breath,

The 3d of Jan. 1732. Aged 69 Years.

*On a white Stone.*

Here lyeth the Body of THOMAS ROBINS, who in the se-  
veral Capacities of Virger of this Church, Clerk of the  
Works, and Bayliff to the Dean and Chapter, approved  
himself for many years diligent, understanding, and faithful.  
His singular readines in Business, join'd with the greatest  
Probity, render'd him useful to many; as his modest and  
obliging Behaviour gain'd him the Love and Esteem of  
All. He dy'd in the year of Christ, 1737. of his Age 56.

Also here lye the Bodies of MARTHA the Daughter, and  
THOMAS the Son of *Thomas and Mary Robins*.

She { dy'd in the year of Christ, 1738 } of her Age 25.  
He { 1739 } of his Age 23.

*On a mural Monument.*

Near this place lies the Body of RICHARD ELLISTON,  
A Youth of such uncommon Endowments,  
singular Modesty, sweetness of Temper and  
engaging Behaviour,

as could not but inspire his Relations and Friends  
with the most pleasing Hopes.

But alas! all these were defeated in an instant,  
by an unhappy death occasioned by the kick of a Horse,  
August the 4th, 1744; in the 13th year of his Age.

Heu! puer infelix, quæ causa indigna venustos

Fœdavit vultus, atque inopina tulit?

Quæ fera vis fati te funere merfit acerbo,

Luminaque æterno clausa sopore, dedit?

Heu! cadis ante diem, et properata morte tuorum,

Qua sola poteris, irrita vota facis.

Has saltem lachrymas, veri hæc monumenta doloris,

Accipe, et extremum munus amantis habe.

*In the North Transept.*

Jacet hic GULIELMUS GENT Generosus Filius *Geo. Gent*,  
de *Steeple Bumpstead* in Comit. *Essex* Armigeri.

Obiit 10 *Decemb.* Ann. Dom. 1690. Ætatis suæ 45.

*On a Free-Stone.*

THOMAS STUART, Esq; died May the 19th, 1744.

Near this place lyeth the Body of THOMAS STUART late of  
*Stuntney*, Esq; Father of the said deceased.

*On a Free-Stone.*

Here lyeth interred the Body of THOMAS POOLE, senr. who  
was one of the Virgers belonging to this Church. He de-  
parted this Life *August* the 12th, A. D. 1728, aged 55 years.  
Also ANNE POOLE Wife of the said *Thomas Poole*: She de-  
parted this life *April* 4, A. D. 1726, aged 63 years.  
And also ELLEN NEWBAN their Daughter, who dyed  
*Oct.* 28, 1757, aged 57 years.

*On a Free-Stone.*

To the memory of JOHN SCOTT, who died *March* the 15th,  
1733, Aged 42 years. He was a dutiful Son, a generous Bro-  
ther, a true Friend, an honest Man, and a good Christian.

Go, Reader, and deserve such a Character.

Hoc Marmor mœrens posuit *Guliel. Norfolk*.

*On a Free-Stone.*

Here lyeth the Body of ANDREW BRIGNAL, one of the  
Lay-Clerks of this Cathedral Church. He departed this  
Life *Sept.* 22, 1735, in the 56th year of his age.

*In the Nave.**On a white Stone set in one of the Pillars.*

Hic Situs est *Gulielmus Boissius* Filius *Johannis Boissij* Unius Ex  
Ecclesiæ Hujus Canonici, Postquam Annos vixisset plus  
Minus Triginta, Tabo Consumptus Placide Animam  
Deo Reddidit *Novembris* 13, Anno 1637; Posteroque Die  
Sepultus est, Multis ex omnibus Ordinibus Funus Per-  
amice Prosequentibus.



*In St. Mary's Chapel, now used as a Church  
for Trinity Parish.*

*On a black Marble.*

M. S.

Here lyeth the Body of HESTER the Widow of HENRY BENYON, Gentleman: She was born the 10th of Feb. A.D. 1619, and dyed the same day of that Moneth, aged 74.

*On a black Marble.*

Sub hoc Marmore quiescit

Quod Terram sapuit THOMÆ BENYON Clerici.

Nos Mori docuit 25 Feb.

Anno Salutis nostræ 1689-90 :

Amicorum Affectibus, grata omnium Memoria  
Nunquam Moriturus.

*On a brass Plate.*

Here lyeth the Bodie of ROBERT WAGSTAVE late of this Parrish of *Elley* Fishmonger, who departed this life the 15th of Decemb. An. 1616 : And also the Bodie of MARY his Wife, who after his Decease was wife unto *Stephen Baetman* of this Parrish, who likewise departed this Mortall Life, with full Assurance to receive a Life Eternal, 12 Day of *April* : 1621 :

Whose Fayth was such she gladly tooke this cave :  
That she to CHRIST an *Exodus* might have.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lyes the body of WILLIAM WAGSTAFFE Gent : who dyed 24 Feb. 1675.

Also of *Abigail* his Wife, who dyed April 12, 1693, Aged 78.

*On a black Marble.*

H. S. E.

THOMAS MARCH Armiger *Gulielmi March* Armigeri Filius;  
Qui cum notus omnibus vixisset,  
et Sibi maxime,

Anno Dom. MDCLXX, Ætatis suæ LXIX,  
Inter Mortales desiit vivere.

Domina *Dorothea Norton* Filia ejus unica et Hæres in  
mandatis dedit, Moriens MDCCIII,

Ut charissimi sui Patris reliquiis hoc Saxum superimponeretur.

*On a black Marble.*

M. S.

ANNA Pientissima dilectissima Conjux JOHANNIS DOWSING Clerici hinc exoptat evocari. Obiit Dec. 2. A.D. 1686. Ætatis 26to.

JOHANNES dictorum Parentum Filius natu secundus, cum annum compleverat, Matrem præmatura morte abreptam obsequio heu nimis præpropere secutus est. obiit Nov. 29, A.D. 1687.

Deinde post annos 24 SARAH COPPING utriusque Parens indulgentissima, Reverendissimi THOMÆ nunc Archipræfulis *Cantuariensis* Soror carissima, vere vidua 46 annorum, eodem hoc tumulo sepeliri voluit. Ob. Sept. 17. A.D. 1711. Ætat. 72.

JOHANNES DOWSING LL.B. Rector de *Wentworth*, dicti *Johannis & Marthæ* 2dæ Conjugis (quam in *Annæ* suæ locum adoptavit, Genero Uxorem Moritura commendavit, dicta *Sarah*.) Filius, & Hæres unicus, coelebs obiit Nov. 28. A.D. 1742, Ætat. 29. Cujus mortales reliquias sibi præreptas moerens & miseranda Mater hic depofuit, suas committura.

MARTHA porro relicta præfati *Johannis Dowsing* Cler. A. M. (dum Rectoris de *Cottenham*) at ultra 22 annos Uxor THOMÆ WATKINS, A. M. hodie Ecclesiæ hujusce Ministri, utriusque carissima Consors & amantissima, Filium defiendo citius absumpta, Deo vitam fudit Dec. 7. A.D. 1745. Ætat. 67.

*On a black Marble.*

Near this Stone lyeth the body of FRANCES KEMP, late Widow of *Thomas Kemp* of *Thwait-Hall* in the County of *Norfolk*, Gent. who departed this life January 12, in the year 1691. Aged 67.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lyeth the Body of HESTER Wife of WM. SILVERTOP Cl. eldest Daughter of *John Wake*, Gent. and *Hester* his Wife, who dyed Decem. 11th. 1697, Aged 28.

Also the Body of ABIGALE WAKE, youngest Daughter of the said *John* and *Hester*, who dyed Feb. 12th, 1717. Aged 43.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lyeth the Body of THOMAS WATSON of *Ely* Gentleman, who liv'd a devout worshipper of God, a sincere Friend, a just Dealer, a charitable and most useful Neighbour; and who desir'd and rejoic'd to dye in the peace and Communion of the Established Church of *England* : which he did on the 19th day of *May* in the 50th year of his age. Anno Domini 1703.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lyeth the Body of SUSANNA the Wife of WILL. CAWTHORNE, who departed this life the 19th of June 1703; in the 46th year of her age.

As you are, so were we;  
And as we are, so must you be.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lyeth the Body of EDWARD MARSH, Gent. a Man mindful of his duty to God, one of great industry, and of equal honesty and fairness in his dealings : who being blest with a plentiful product of his honest Care left answerable Legacys to his numerous Relations, and some others, Especially to such whose lower circumstances most requir'd his Charity. He dy'd the 15th of Aug. 1703; in the 53d year of his age.

*On a mural Monument.*

Near this place lye the Bodies of WILLIAM MARSH, Gent. who died Oct. 25. 1708, aged 68 years.

Also EDW. MARSH Son of the said *Wm. Marsh*, and *Eliz.* his Wife, who died April 17, 1707, aged 20 years.

Also ELIZABETH the Wife of the aforesaid *Wm. Marsh*, who died May 4, 1719. aged 70 years.

And also THO. MARSH, Gent. Son of the aforesaid *Wm.* and *Eliz.* who died August 30, 1720, Aged 39 years: by whose last Will this Monument was erected.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lyeth the Body of NATH. BROWNE of *Ely*, Draper, and *Alice* his Wife, Daughter of *Thomas Angier* of *Ely*, Gent. He died the 17th of June 1706.  
She the 30th of March 1676.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lyeth the Body of MILES ANGIER of *Ely* Gent. who dyed the 11th of November 1706. Aged 62.

*On a brass Plate.*

Here lyes the Body of THO. MACKBRAIRE, youngest Son of *Robert Macbraire* of *Newark* in the County of *Galloway*, *North Brittain*, Gent. who dyed the 28th of January, 1714. Aged 29.

*On a black Marble.*

Here lyeth the Body of THOMAS DOO, who departed this life the 23d day of August, Anno Dom. 1719. Ætat. 53.

THE LORD KNOWETH THEM THAT BE HIS.

Also Mrs. ABIGAIL DOO, Relict of Mr. *Thomas Doo*, died 29th July 1760. Aged 87 years.

\* G 2

On



*On a mural Monument.*

Near this place lyes the Body of WILLIAM COLE of *Ely* Gent. who dy'd the 16th of *November* 1724, Aged 77 years. He left a Legacy of three Pounds to be paid yearly to this Parish: forty Shillings thereof for 2 *Obit*-Sermons, one on *May*-day, and the other on the 16th of *November*: The remainder 20s to be distributed among 20 poor Widows that are at Church on those days.

Also MARY his Wife lyes here interr'd, she dy'd on the 20th of *November*, 1702, Aged 56.

*On a mural Monument.*

Near this place also lyeth the Body of SAMUEL COLE Apoth. Son of the above named *Wm.* and *Mary Cole*; who was born the 11th of *April* 1690, and dy'd the 6th of *Feb.* 1728-9. He was a Person of uncommon Industry, very punctual and exact in all his dealings, a friend to the indigent and necessitous whilst he liv'd; and when he dy'd he gave five Pounds per Ann. to the Poor of this Parish for ever.

*On a mural Monument.*

Near this place lyes interr'd the Body of ROBERT LIGHT-FOOT Esq; some time Receiver of the Land Tax for the County of *Cambridge*: And also Receiver and Expenditor General to the Right Honourable the Corporation of *Bedford* Level. He dyed the 27th of *July* 1730, Aged 39 years. Near also lyes the Body of Mrs. MARY LIGHTFOOT, Relict of the above *Robert Lightfoot* Esq. She died 21st *October* 1763, aged 63 years.

And near also lye the Remains of Mr. ROBERT LIGHTFOOT, Son to the above-named *Robert* and *Mary Lightfoot*. He died 5th *July* 1748. aged 20 years.

Of what sort the above mentioned persons were, the last Day will discover.

*On a black Marble.*

H. S. E.

Vir omni Memoria dignus JOHANNES BRINGHURST A. M.  
Ecclesiæ Cath. *Eliensis* Canonicus minor,  
Ejusdem Præcentor, nec non Prælector Theologicus,  
Ecclesiæ hujus Paroch: S S Trin:  
Per annos ultra triginta  
Pastor fidus ac diligens.

Multis quidem his, sed non magnis Ecclesiæ beneficiis  
Ufus est, qui, si meritis par respondisset gratia,  
Vel maximis auctus ornatusque fuisset.

Vir utique cui ad ingenii famam haud vulgarem,  
Ad Doctrinæ laudem satis amplam,  
Summæ simplicitatis, facilitatis morum suavissimæ,  
Spectatæ erga Deum pietatis, erga amicos fidei,  
Singularis erga omnes benevolentia  
Egregia plane commendatio accessit.

His dotibus instructus,  
Lenioribus pariter virtutibus ac severioribus ornatus,  
Omnibus & Homini & Clerici officiis  
Cumulatissime satisfecit.

Magnumque adeo sui desiderium bonis omnibus  
Moriens reliquit.

Obiit 4to die *Febr.* Anno Dom. 1735. Ætat. 56.

*On a black Marble.*

Near this place lyeth the Body of JOHN KING Esq; who dyed *May* 13th, 1736. Aged 61 years.

As also the Body of MARY his Wife, who dyed *July* 8th, 1730. Aged 53.

Here likewise lyeth the Body of JOHN KING jun. Gent. who dyed *March* 26th, 1752. Aged 54.

*On a mural Monument.*

That the Memory of an honest and well deservng Man may be transmitted to posterity

This Monument was Designed and Erected by  
*John Sanderfon* of *London* Architect,  
as a Grateful Acknowledgment for Services done him by  
HUMPHRY SMITH Esq;

who departed this life the 27th day of *March* 1743,  
in the 72d Year of his Age:

A Man who in every station of life acquitted himself with  
Honour, Integrity and an Upright Mind;

Of a competent knowledge in the most Useful Arts  
and Sciences;

But most eminent for his superior Abilities in Draining  
Fenny and Marsh Lands;

Witness his Performances in *Thorney Level*,  
in the Isle of *Ely*, and *Deeping Fens* in *Lincolnshire*;  
in which places his Memory will be dear to all  
Generous Minds.

*On a mural Monument.*

Near this Place lyes Interred the Body of  
GOTOBED EAST Gent.

Sometime Receiver and Expenditor General to the  
Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Corporation of *Bedford* Level.

He died the 29th of *August*, 1753,  
Aged 67 years.

*On a black Marble.*

In Memory of MARTHA JEA  
who died *March* 3d, 1754. Aged 79.

*On a mural Monument.*

To the Memory of Mr. THOMAS HALL,  
An eminent Surgeon and Apothecary of this City:

A Man of strict honesty and probity,  
and in every respect an useful Member of Society.

It was his constant study to do good,  
and to relieve the distresses of others,  
rather than to enrich himself.

Among his Acquaintance he lived generous and friendly,  
He was liberal to the Poor, and benevolent to All.

These social Virtues gained him respect whilst living,  
and made his death universally lamented.

He was born at *Ashford* near *Ludlow* in *Shropshire*, and died  
*Feb.* 28, 1759, in the 48th year of his Age.

*On a small mural Tablet.*

Sacred to the Memory of JOHN JEFFERYS, who liv'd with  
inflexible Constancy and commendable Integrity, and  
died with an unblemished Character, *January* the 27th,  
1763. Aged 48 years.

*In the North Isle of the Nave of the Cathedral, on a white  
mural Tablet, is this Inscription:*

1676. ROGER CLOPTON, Rector of *Downham*, gave 200l.  
by which the greatest part of the Nave of this Church  
was paved.

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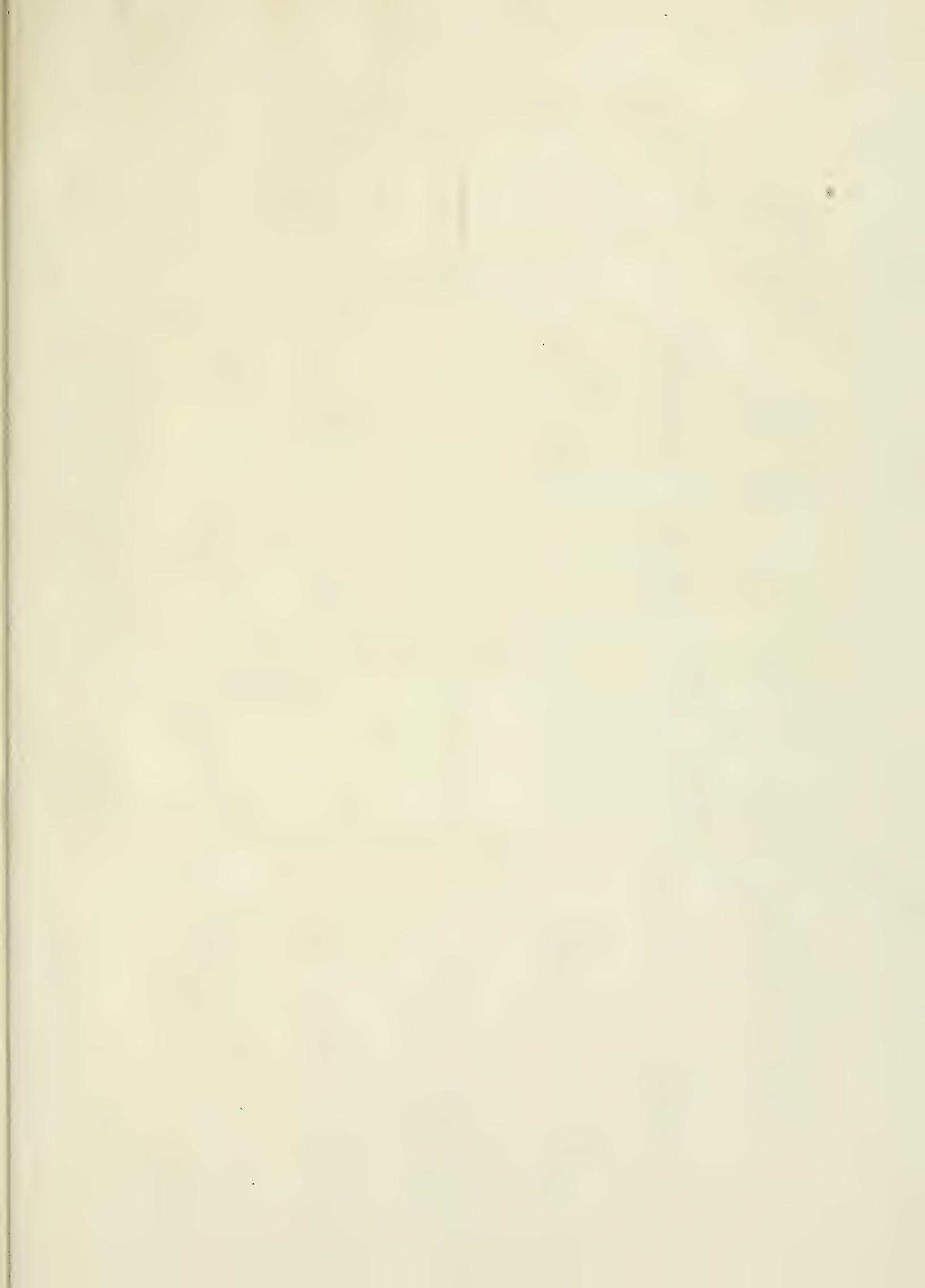
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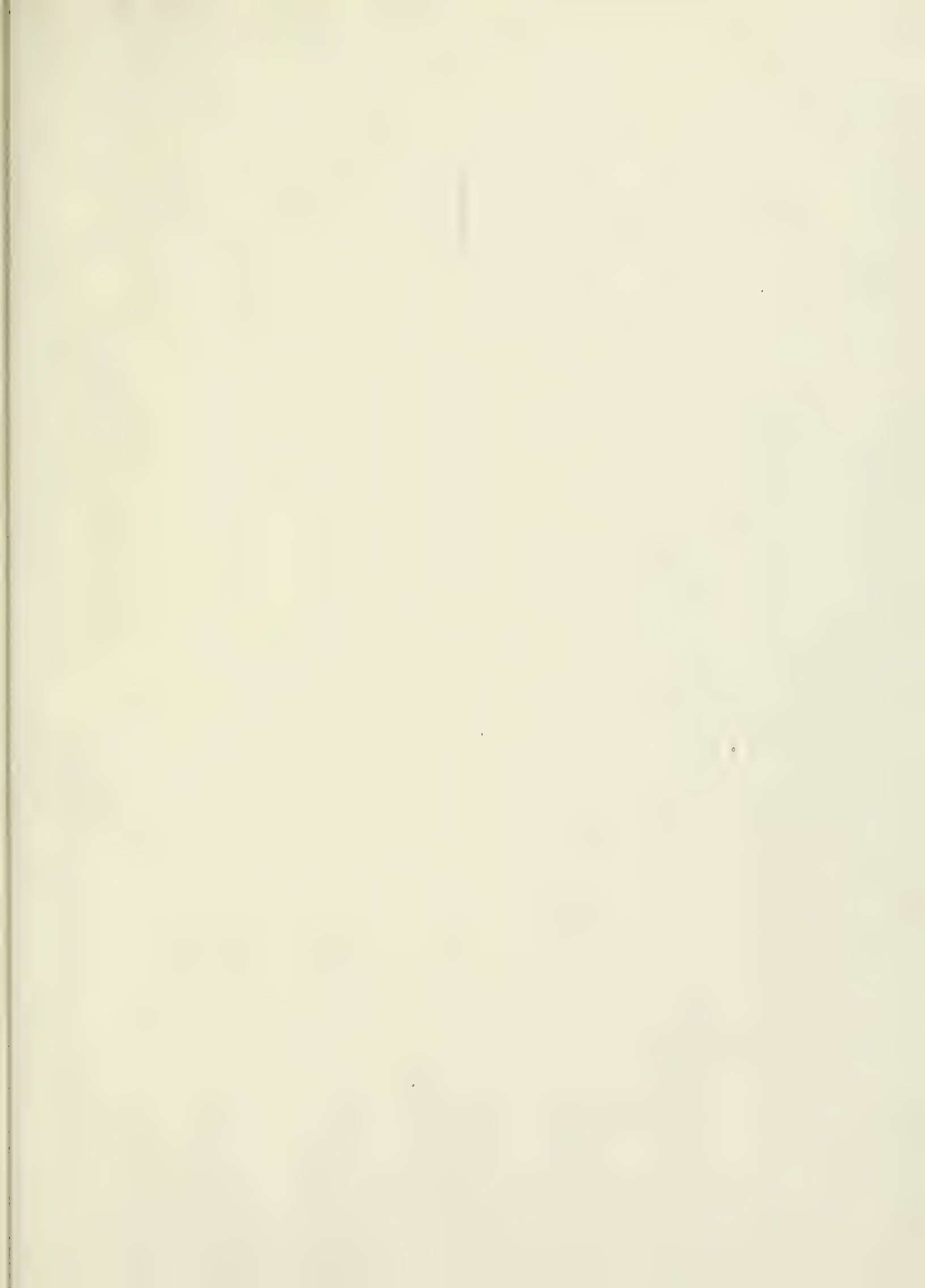
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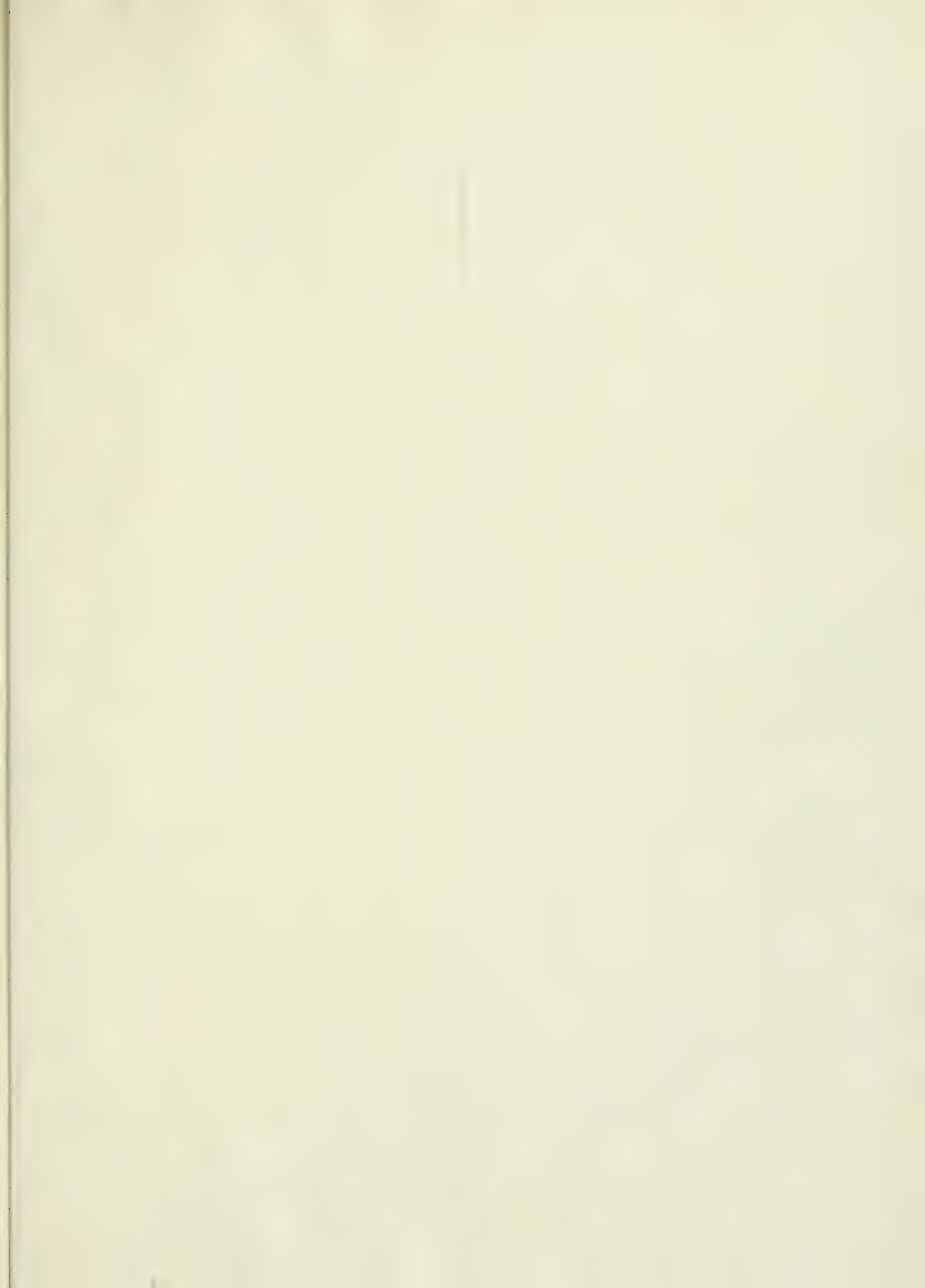






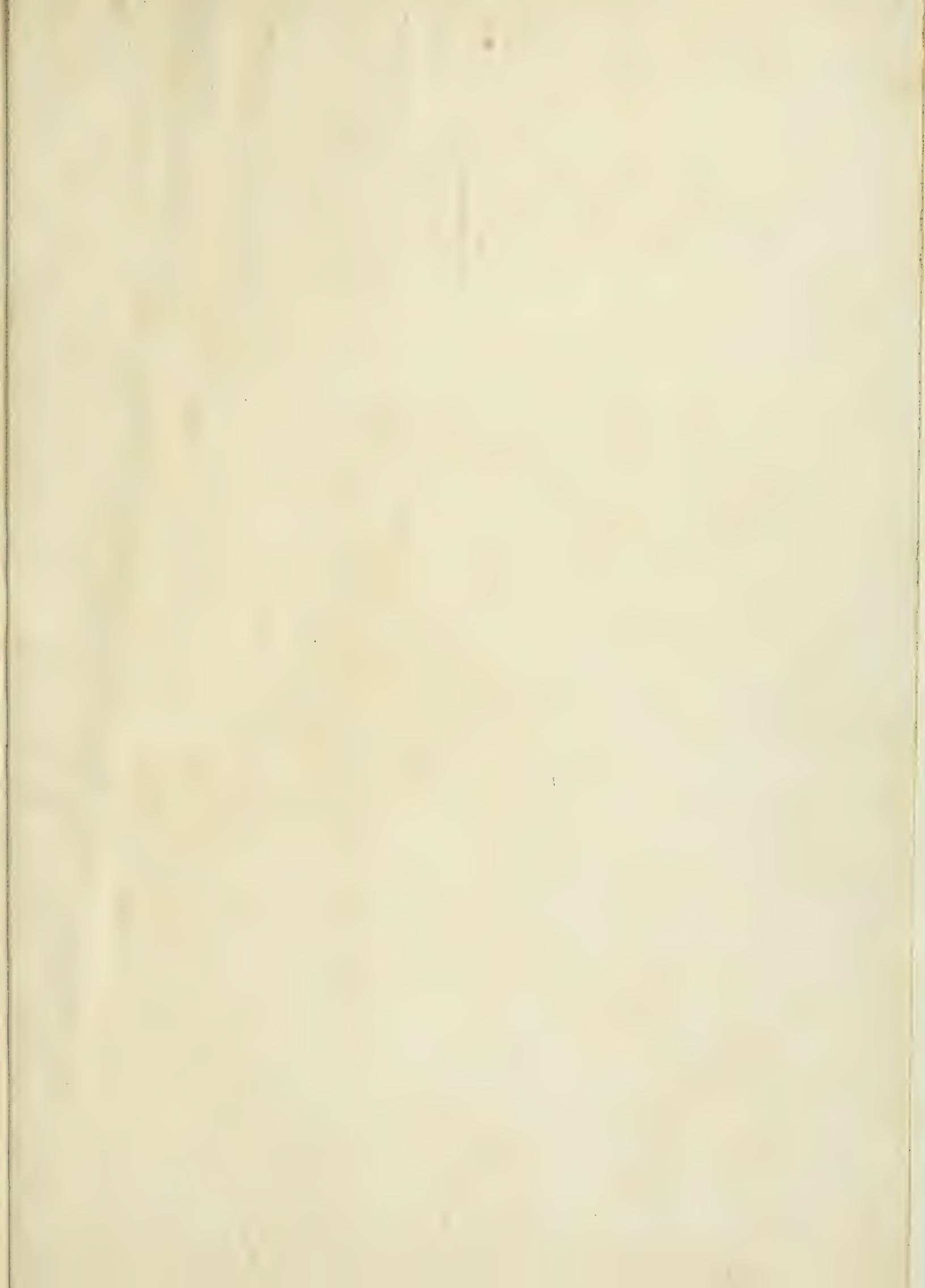
























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